

SECRETARY'S REPORT

THE THIRTIETH ANNUAL CONVENTION

The thirtieth annual convention of the Catholic Theological Society of America was held June 9-12, 1975 at the Hotel Monteleone in New Orleans, Louisiana. The theme of the convention was: "Catholic Theology in Social and Political Context." In the absence of Archbishop Hannan, Bishop Harold Perry, Auxiliary Bishop, greeted convention participants and welcomed them to New Orleans. Avery Dulles, S.J., Vice-President of the Society, was principal celebrant at the annual convention eucharistic liturgy on Tuesday, June 10, at noon.

The annual buffet supper was held on Tuesday evening, June 10.

CONVENTION PROGRAM

The 1975 convention program offered a stimulating variety of speakers, papers and seminars. A new development in program format provided topics for exploration and discussion in five informal pre-convention sessions on Monday evening. These topics and the directors of the sessions included: *Does Seminary Theology Have a Specific Character?* David M. Murphy, Seminary Department, NCEA, Washington, D.C.; *Women and the Ordained Ministry*, Mary B. Lynch, Association of Women Aspiring to the Presbyteral Ministry, and Margaret Farley, R.S.M., Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut; *Divorce*, Dennis J. Doherty, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; *Infallibility and Magisterium*, Edward J. Gratsch, Norwood, Ohio; *Non-Christian Religion and Salvation*, Wilma von Jess, St. Anselm's College, Manchester, New Hampshire.

Tuesday, June 10

9:45-11:55 A.M. — OPENING SESSION: THEOLOGY AND SOCIETY

The Impact of Sociology on Catholic Theology, Gregory Baum, Institute of Christian Thought, Toronto, Canada. Reactors: Patrick Burns, S.J., Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Mary I. Buckley, St. John's University, Jamaica, New York.

3:00-5:30 P.M. — SEMINAR-WORKSHOPS: THEOLOGY IN SOCIETY AND POLITICS

DOCTRINE OF GOD. *Society, Politics and the Transcendent*, Bernard Cooke, University of Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

CHRISTOLOGY. *Critical Social Theory and Christology*, Francis Fiorenza, University of Notre Dame, Indiana.

ECCLESIOLOGY. *Sociology of Knowledge in Ecclesiology*, Joseph Komonchak, St. Joseph Seminary, Yonkers, New York.

ETHICS. *Society and Ethics*, Margaret Farley, R.S.M., Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.

SACRAMENTAL. *Worship as a Social System*, George McCauley, S.J., Forham University, Bronx, New York.

Wednesday, June 11

9:00-10:00 A.M. — GENERAL SESSION: A CHALLENGE TO THEOLOGY

American Wealth and Dominance in the Global Community, J. Bryan Hehir, Division of Justice and Peace, U.S.C.C., Washington, D.C.

10:15-11:30 A.M. — SPECIAL SESSIONS: CHALLENGES TO THEOLOGY

The Situation of Hispanic Americans, Virgil Elizondo, Mexican American Cultural Center, San Antonio, Texas.

The Situation of American Blacks, Joseph Nearon, S.S.S., John Carroll University, Cleveland, Ohio.

The Situation of Women in Society, Sara Butler, M.S.B.T., Office of Religious Education, Mobile, Alabama.

3:00-4:15 P.M. — GENERAL SESSION: THEOLOGY AND POLITICS

Decision-Making for America: Political Crisis and Theological

Crossroad, Thomas F. O'Meara, O.P., Aquinas Institute of Theology, Dubuque, Iowa.

4:30-6:00 P.M. — SEMINAR-WORKSHOPS (continued from Tuesday)

Thursday, June 12

9:00-10:30 A.M. — REPORT AND DISCUSSION OF RESEARCH TEAMS

The Renewal of Penance, Kenan Osborne, O.F.M., Franciscan School of Theology, Berkeley, California.

Human Sexuality, Anthony Kosnik, SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary, Orchard Lake, Michigan.

10:45-11:25 A.M. — GENERAL SESSION

Presidential Address, Luke Salm, F.S.C., Manhattan College, Bronx, New York.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The annual business meeting of the Society took place on Wednesday, June 11, at 11:45 A.M. The meeting was called to order by Luke Salm, President. Joseph Nearon was parliamentarian.

Before proceeding to the order of the day, the President asked for prayers for the father of past president, John Wright, S.J., who was called home suddenly the previous evening.

The report of the Admissions Committee was given by Edward Konerman, S.J., Chairman. Members of the committee are: Francis Fiorenza, Jerome Theisen, O.S.B. and Thomas Sheridan, S.J. Fifty-one applications for membership were screened and processed. Two failed to meet requirements as stated in the amended Constitution of 1974. Candidates have earned degrees in seven countries. Six hold degrees from the Catholic University of Louvain.

The following applicants were nominated and elected to membership:

Active members

Gregory Baum, D.Th.	John McNeil, Ph.D.
Joann Conn, Ph.D., 1974	Eugene Megyer, S.T.D., 1951
Siena Davis, Ph.D., 1957	J. Giles Milhaven, Ph.D., 1962
James Ebner, Ph.D., 1972	Jeremy Miller, S.T.D., 1975
Gerard Ettliger, D.Phil., 1972	John Wilson, Ph.D., 1975
Joseph Fahey, Ph.D., 1974	Leo O'Donovan, D.Theol., 1971
Kathleen Fischer, Ph.D., 1974	James Patrick, Th.D., 1968
Mary Gerhart, Ph.D., 1973	Donald Pelotte, Ph.D., 1975
Roger Haight, Ph.D., 1973	Elizabeth Picken, Ph.D., 1961
James Heaney, Ph.D., 1973	Richard Roach, Ph.D., 1974
Eugene Hillman, Ph.D., 1972	C. Edward Robins, S.T.D., 1975
David Hollenbach, Ph.D., 1975	Patrick Ruddle, Ph.D., 1974
Thomas Ivory, Ph.D., 1974	Robert Schreiter, D.Theol., 1974
Maureen Keegan, Ph.D., 1974	Jacob Vellian, S.T.D., 1965
Terence Keegan, S.T.D., 1973	Ph.D., 1972
Roch Kereszty, S.T.D., 1963	James Walter, Ph.D., 1974
Matthew Lamb, D.Theol., 1974	Richard Ward, S.T.D., 1974
Edward Malloy, Ph.D., 1975	Leland White, Ph.D., 1974
David McBriar, Ph.D., 1972	Oliver Williams, Ph.D., 1974

George Worgul, Ph.D., 1975	Peter Fink
<i>Associate members</i>	Lawrence Frankovich
Eugene Ahner	Edward Holland
Dennis Burke	Margaret O'Gara
Robert Comiskey	Richard Schlenker
Joseph Di Noia	Bernard Sloan
William Finan	

Honorary members

At the suggestion of the President, John L. Kelly moved that honorary life-time membership be conferred on Archbishop Philip M. Hannan and Bishop Harold R. Perry of New Orleans. The motion was seconded and unanimously acclaimed.

The report of the Nominating Committee was presented by Richard McCormick, S.J., Chairman. The following slate of candidates was presented:

For Vice-President: David Tracy, University of Chicago;
Thomas O'Meara, Aquinas Institute of
Theology, Dubuque.

Agnes Cunningham, Saint Mary of the Lake Seminary, Mundelein, was nominated from the floor by George Dyer.

David Tracy was elected Vice-President for 1975-1976.

For Board of Directors: Joseph Farraher, St. Patrick's Seminary, Menlo Park, California;
Francis Fiorenza, University of Notre Dame;
Brian McDermott, Weston School of Theology;
Charles Meyer, Saint Mary of the Lake Seminary, Mundelein;

Suzanne Noffke, Racine, Wisconsin, was nominated from the floor by Charles Curran.

Francis Fiorenza and Suzanne Noffke were elected to the Board of Directors for a two-year term, 1975-1977.

Brian McDermott was elected to the Board of Directors for one year to complete David Tracy's term as a board member, 1975-1976.

For Treasurer: Michael Scanlon, O.S.A., Augustinian College, Washington, D.C. was nominated to replace Philip D. Morris who has submitted his resignation to the Board of Directors. Michael Scanlon was acclaimed treasurer of the Society for a one-year term.

For Secretary: Agnes Cunningham was nominated for the position of Secretary of the Society. Since there were no further nominations, election to a one-year term was by acclaim.

Philip Morris presented the Treasurer's Report (see below). One hundred and ninety-one persons have registered at the 1975 convention. The 1976 convention will be held June 9, 10, 11, 12 at the Statler-Hilton Hotel, Washington, D.C.

The Treasurer's Report was unanimously accepted.

President's Report

The President reported on his participation in two meetings of the NCCB Liaison Committee, held in June and November. Results of these meetings are seen in communication among Catholic societies and scholars, as well as in a structure within the USCC to facilitate communications between scholars and the bishops. Bishop Rausch and one scholar of his choice will direct further action in this group.

CTSA contacts have continued with Bishop Ahr, Chairman of the Doctrinal Committee.

The President announced the appointment of Richard McCormick, S.J., as Liaison Officer of the CTSA for future collaboration with the NCCB and USCC committees and with other scholarly organizations.

Details of the Bishops' Fund Drive, as recorded in the Treasurer's Report, were given. The continued work of CTSA research teams is made possible through contributions to this purpose by the bishops.

CTSA consultation on the National Catechetical Directory was submitted by a committee composed of Luke Salm, President, Richard McBrien, past president, and John R. Wright, S.J., past president who also acted as chairman. The report was serious and lengthy. It addressed, in particular, the manner in which theology was treated in the draft, citing the frequency of pejorative references; the inconsistent theology, especially with regard to magisterium and revelation; the sexist language in the document. Special theological consultation was recommended. The response of Monsignor Paradis assured the president that the work of the CTSA committee would be given separate and serious consideration in the work of revision of the Directory.

The President announced the appointment of delegates to the CSR: Michael Scanlon, O.S.A., CTSA Treasurer, *ex officio* delegate; Bernard Cooke, delegate for the term which began in January, 1975; Carl Peter, delegate as of January, 1976. Thanks was expressed to former delegates Philip Morris, Warren Reich and Gerald van Ackeren, S.J.

Plans for a CSR publication, the Journal of Religious Studies, and development of the Scholars Press have led to the decision to form a new committee whereby scholarly monographs and task force reports (such as *Penance*) from CTSA can be screened and prepared for publication. Information on this project will be made known to members as it is available.

Because of recent interest in historical documents and data, work will be undertaken in the near future to collect and collate material for the CTSA Archives. Former officers of the Society and persons to whom CTSA has formerly confided documents regarding the history of the Society will be requested to assist in the collecting of this material.

The CTSA Research Task Force on Penance has now completed its work. The Research Committee on Human Sexuality will soon have finished its mandate. For the coming year, the task force on Black Studies will continue its work, while a new research committee will be organized on Women in the Church.

On the occasion of his retirement as Treasurer of CTSA, Philip D. Morris was acclaimed by a resounding vote of thanks for his service to the Society during the past five years. The President commended Father Morris, citing the following achievements: in the past five years, Philip Morris has doubled the financial reserves of CTSA during a difficult economic period; he has completely reorganized our recording

and mailing systems, placing them on a professional basis through association with CSR; he has brought astuteness and foresight to the planning of conventions and convention sites; he has, above all, contributed important theological insights to deliberations and discussions among officers and board members.

A memorial plaque, designed especially for Philip Morris, failed to arrive due to mail delays. It will be offered to him with a token of our appreciation and gratitude.

Resolutions of thanks and recognition were offered to Philip D. Morris; to his able and devoted assistant, Grace Killen; to Rose Morris, Marie Scavone and Kay Scavone for their expert efficiency at the 1975 registration desk.

The President announced that, thanks to Philip Morris and Grace Killen, the mailing and distribution of *Proceedings* will continue to be directed from Darlington Seminary in Mahwah, NJ, 07430. Orders should be sent to that address, with any pertinent communications.

The President read the following resolutions which were moved, seconded and unanimously accepted:

That in the Prayer of the Faithful during the convention Mass on Tuesday, June 10, there be added a special petition asking the Lord to give resurrection and life to Bishop Alexander Zaleski and to make the work of fruitful collaboration between Catholic bishops and theologians prosper in our day.

Be it resolved that the Catholic Theological Society of America wishes to express its sorrow at the death of Bishop Alexander Zaleski, whom it regarded as a true friend dedicated to the work of bringing about a more effective exchange and collaboration between bishops and theologians in this country;

Be it further resolved that the Catholic Theological Society of America, having offered its prayers on behalf of Bishop Zaleski to him in whom we hope for life and resurrection, wishes to give public witness to its gratitude for the service and encouragement it received from Bishop Zaleski and hence directs that a formal record of this action be sent to Auxiliary Bishop James Sullivan of the Diocese of Lansing; to Cardinal John Dearden of Detroit; to Archbishop Joseph Bernadin, President of USCC-NCBB; and to Archbishop Jean Jadot, Apostolic Delegate to the United States.

The President announced that the Committee on Peace and Justice will continue its work in collaboration with other efforts during the Bicentennial year.

The Secretary's annual report to the membership was read by Agnes Cunningham. The following items were noted by the Secretary:

1. Due to an error on the part of the CSR computer, names of some members have been omitted from the print-out. Members failing to receive anticipated mailings should notify the Secretary's office, so that corrections may be reported.
2. In response to a request from Monsignor Fiedler, Director of the Bishops' Committee on the Permanent Diaconate, 120 members of CTSA responded, with 95 members indicating a positive answer to the invitation to participate in programs of preparation for the permanent diaconate at the local level. Members who have indicated their willingness to assist in these training programs will be notified in the coming months of the manner in which their collaboration will be directed.
3. Plans are underway for a simple directory of CTSA members which will be made available during the coming year.
4. Because of increased membership and/or oversight on the part of former members, the CTSA Resource Directory is still incomplete. Cards will be sent to members during the coming year to provide for updating of this important file.
5. A roster of women members of CTSA is now available from the Secretary's office. There are now thirty-nine women members of CTSA, out of a total membership of 1,102.

In October, 1974, the CTSA Secretary was requested to keep the board and general members of the Society informed regarding the important question of the role of women in the Church. The following selected items are both representative of current concerns and significant in the ongoing discussion of this topic:

1. INTERNATIONAL PAPAL STUDY COMMISSION ON WOMEN IN SOCIETY AND IN THE CHURCH

In October, 1974, a report on the International Papal Study Commission was presented to the Synod of Bishops. This report in-

cluded statements on the nature and formal object of the commission, its method of work, its agenda and the present state of its research. A number of texts have been drafted, provisionally and partially, by the commission. It is expected that the commission's mandate will be extended until January, 1976, to allow for a contribution to the International Women's Year, proclaimed by the United Nations for 1975, with its theme: "Equality, Development and Peace."

2. NCCB *AD HOC* COMMITTEE ON THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN SOCIETY AND CHURCH

Following the death of Archbishop Leo Byrne in October, 1974, Bishop Michael F. McAuliffe was named Chairman of this committee. Under Bishop McAuliffe's leadership, the committee has redefined its goals and purposes as follows:

- a. The committee would be a source of information to the bishops about the role and status of women. It would suggest stands that the bishops might take as well as programs that they could consider for adoption.
- b. The committee would study problems raised relative to women and in so far as they pertain to other committees, submit them to said committees and press for their solution.
- c. Problems of the exploitation of women or discriminatory treatment would be addressed by calling them to the attention of those bodies responsible for redress.
- d. The committee will consider the suggestion that the NCCB establish a Task Force to study especially the personhood of woman in all its ramifications, since information in this area is essential to the solution of most other problems facing women.

3. ROMAN CATHOLIC CONSULTATION ON THE ORDINATION OF WOMEN

The Bishops' Committee for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs has invited a number of Roman Catholic consultants to participate in a consultation on the Ordination of Women. This consultation will be held in conjunction with Anglican members from June 22 to June 25. Several CTSA members will participate in this consultation.

4. ORDINATION CONFERENCE

With the support and encouragement of several bishops, the United States Section of the Association of Women Aspiring to the Presbyterian Ministry is planning a conference for November, 1975. The theme of the conference is: "Women in Future Priesthood Now: A Call for Action." The following objectives have been proposed for this conference:

- a. This conference will convene persons committed to making the talents of women fully available for ministerial service in the Roman Catholic Church.
 - b. It will inform the Church about women preparing for a new expression of full priesthood.
 - c. The participants will examine the present status of the ordination issue, and will develop strategies for effective action.
- The coordinator of this project, until recently, has been Mary Lynch. The National Center for Church Vocations has extended its address to the Ordination Task Force.

5. CANON LAW SOCIETY OF AMERICA

During the past several years, the Canon Law Society of America has contributed to the study of the role of women in the Church at both the national and the regional levels. The recommendations of the 1973 Colloquium on Women in Ministry and the resolutions concerning ministry from the 1974 "Think Tank" are of particular importance and interest for their contribution to research and discussion on women's role in the Church.

These five items do not exhaust the multiple efforts now in progress to address and promote a fuller participation of women in the life and mission of the Church. However, the ecclesial and theological dimensions of studies carried on in these areas warrant that members of the CTSA be acquainted with their existence and purpose.

The following questions and suggestions were submitted to the President prior to the close of the business meeting:

1. Would it be appropriate to print Bishop Zaleski's obituary in the *Proceedings*? (It was not judged feasible.)

2. The resolution concerning Bishop Zaleski should be sent also to Bishop Ahr.
3. Liturgical prayer and prayer in general should occupy a special place in the lives of Catholic theologians. It is suggested that some attention be given to the enhancement of our liturgies and other forms of prayer during the convention and that some priority of time be accorded them.
4. The Catholic Committee on Campus Ministry needs help from theologians in thinking through the concerns of campus ministry from a theological perspective. The director of CCCM intends to pursue the possibility of liaison with CTSA.
5. The status of CTSA research committee reports was reviewed. Each report is "received" (accepted) by the Board of Directors, who then determines the manner in which the report is to be made available to the members of the Society.

The President asked for a vote of appreciation for the CTSA members who were nominated for various offices at this meeting, but not elected, as a recognition of their willingness to respond to the request made of them to be candidates.

The Secretary's report was approved.

The then President read the Citation for the John Courtney Murray Award, announcing the recipient for 1975: Carl J. Peter.

Citation for the John Courtney Murray Award, 1975

It is not often that the Catholic Theological Society of America has the opportunity to honor someone who might be described as a working theologian, one of our own so to speak who teaches effectively, studies intensively, writes significantly, dialogues sensitively, gives of his talents generously and, in a special way, has contributed more than most to the life and growth of the Society itself. The person we honor this year is not so obviously distinguished or distinguishable from the rest of us except perhaps in the fact that he does all of these things consistently and does them exceedingly well. In a convention devoted largely to the challenges that come from the pressing problems of American society and politics, it is refreshing to pause to honor one who is both an ecumenist and an escha-

tologist, one who can help us not only to span the distances between the Christian churches but also to bridge the gap from here to eternity.

Here is a theologian who is first of all a teacher. The membership of the CTSA has always been comprised for the most part of theologians who teach; few have the reputation that he enjoys for clarity, precision and depth of insight into the complexities of the dogmatic tracts from creation to the eschaton. He knows the rigors and rewards of serious research and scholarship; in addition to his numerous and already published articles and book reviews there is promise of more to come in his current plans for a series of volumes in systematics in the Roman Catholic tradition that will begin with a treatise on Christology. He is a former president of our Society and has served and continues to serve the CTSA in a variety of leadership roles: as Chairperson of the Current Problems Committee for four years, as Secretary for three years of our Committee for Liaison with the Bishops' Doctrinal Commission, and currently as Chairperson of our Committee on Publications. He has shared with us the results of his thought and research, being represented in our *Proceedings* with five major papers delivered at our annual meetings over the last ten years.

A man for all seasons, he enjoys the respect and confidence of the Roman Catholic Bishops and of Protestant scholars as well. He was chosen to be a *peritus* for the episcopal delegates to the International Synod of Bishops in 1971. He contributed significantly to the bilateral consultations, first with the Presbyterian and Reformed theologians and later with the Lutherans. He has participated actively in the National Council of Churches as an observer, consultant and member of the Commission on Faith and Order.

As an example to us all, then, and an encouragement to our younger theologians to match these achievements in teaching excellence, service and leadership in the theological community and especially in the CTSA, in developing communication between Catholic theologians and bishops, the university, our non-Catholic counterparts, and the Catholic community at large, the John Courtney Murray award for distinguished achievement in theology is conferred this year on the extraordinary Ordinary Professor of Dogmatic Theology at Catholic University and recently elected Chairperson of the department, the Reverend Carl J. Peter.

The business meeting was adjourned according to schedule.

AGNES CUNNINGHAM, *Secretary*
St. Mary of the Lake Seminary
Mundelein, Illinois