

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

### THE THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

The thirty-sixth annual convention of the Catholic Theological Society of America was held June 10-13, 1981, at the Netherland Hilton Hotel in Cincinnati, Ohio. The theme of the convention was: "The Local Church." At the opening session of the convention, Archbishop Joseph L. Bernardin welcomed the convention participants to Cincinnati and gave them a word of encouragement in their theological endeavors in the service of the local church. The convention's eucharistic liturgy was celebrated at 11:30 A.M. on Thursday, June 11. A cocktail hour and the convention banquet were held Thursday evening. At dessert time during the banquet the recipient of the John Courtney Murray Award was announced and presented with the award.

#### CONVENTION PROGRAM

##### Wednesday, June 10

8:00-10:00 P.M. - PRE-CONVENTION INFORMAL SEMINAR

*The Holy Spirit, Mary and Local Church.* Frederick M. Jelly, O.P., The Josephinum, Columbus, OH.

##### Thursday, June 11

9:30-11:00 A.M. - FIRST PLENARY SESSION

*Local Churches of the Late New Testament Period.* Raymond E. Brown, S.S., Union Theological Seminary, New York.

2:00-3:30 P.M. - SPECIAL INTEREST SESSIONS

1. *Local Theologies in the Local Churches.* Robert J. Schreier, C.P.P.S., Chicago Theological Union.
2. *Are There Theological Resources for Understanding Ministry and Shared Responsibility in the Church?* Philip Murnion, The Parish Project, New York.
3. *Patristic Models of Soteriology and Their Environments.* Joanne Dewart, University of St. Michael's College, Toronto
4. *Surveying Ecclesial Self-Consciousness and Structures in Socio-Cultural Regions of the Globe.* Joseph Gremillion, Shreveport, LA.

5. *Comunidad de Base, Encuentro, Equipo—The Development of an Hispanic Ecclesiology in the United States*. Olga Villa-Parra, Midwest Hispanic Institute, Notre Dame University; Frank Ponce, Secretariat for Hispanic Affairs, NCCB/USCC, Washington.
6. *Pope Paul VI's Theology of the Local Church*. Sabbas Kilian, O.F.M., Fordham University, Bronx.
7. *The Local Church in the Anglican/Roman Catholic Consultation*. John Paul Boyer, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Cincinnati; Frederick M. Jelly, O.P., The Josephinum, Columbus.

4:00-5:30 P.M. — SECOND PLENARY SESSION

*Ecclesiae Sorores ac Fratres: Sibling Communion in Pre-Nicene Christianity*. Michael A. Fahey, S.J., Concordia University, Montreal.

Friday, June 12

9:00-10:30 A.M. — THIRD PLENARY SESSION

*The Parish Community: Theological Questions Arising from Attempts to Implement Vatican II*. Philip Murnion, The Parish Project, New York.

2:30-4:00 P.M. — CONTINUING SEMINARS

1. *Ecclesiology: Reception of the Augsburg Confession as Catholic? Issues Concerning Church and Ministry*. Moderator: John P. Galvin, St. John's Seminary, Brighton, MA.
2. *Moral Theology: Pacifism vs. Just War Theory: The State of the Question in American Catholic Ethics*. Moderator: David Hollenbach, S.J., Weston School of Theology, Cambridge, MA.
3. *Theological Anthropology: Vision, Method, and the Human-ness of the Local Church*. Moderator: Cathleen M. Going, Thomas More Institute, Montreal.
4. *Christology: Pneumatology and Experience as the Source of Christology*. Moderator: Bernard Cooke, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA.
5. *Spirituality: Towards Theologically Adequate and Pastorally Appropriate Images of Spiritual Direction*. Moderator: Louis Cameli, St. Mary of the Lake Seminary, Mundelein, IL.
6. *The Trinity: The Impact of Soteriological Questions on Early Trinitarian Theology*. Moderator: Mary Ann Donovan, S.C., Jesuit School of Theology, Berkeley.

7. The Nature and Method of Theology: *What is Systematic Theology?* Moderator: Stephen Happel, St. Meinrad School of Theology.
8. Nineteenth Century Roman Catholic Theology/Authority: *Newman on the Reception of Doctrine*. John Ford, C.S.C., Catholic University of America, Washington: Robert Simon, C.M., Mary Immaculate Seminary, Northampton, PA.

4:30-6:00 P.M. – FOURTH PLENARY SESSION

*Ministry in the Local Church*. Joseph Komonchak, Catholic University of America, Washington.

8:00-10:00 P.M. – OPEN FORUM

*The Hispanic Church in the United States: A Local Ecclesiology*. Virgil Elizondo, Mexican-American Cultural Center, San Antonio, TX; Olga Villa-Parra, Midwest Hispanic Institute, Notre Dame University; Frank Ponce, Secretariat for Hispanic Affairs, NCCB/USCC, Washington.

Saturday, June 13

9:00-9:45 A.M. – PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

*The Creative Imagination: The Aesthetic Horizon in Theology*. Thomas F. O'Meara, O.P.

10:15-11:45 A.M. – CONTINUING SEMINARS

The same seminars continued from Friday, except for:

8. Nineteenth Century Roman Catholic Theology/Authority: *Vatican I and Papal Infallibility: A Discussion of August Hasler's "How the Pope Became Infallible."* Presider: Francis Fiorenza, Catholic University of America, Washington. Moderator: Margaret O'Gara, University of St. Michael's College, Toronto.

#### JOHN COURTNEY MURRAY AWARD

At dessert time during the convention banquet on the evening of Thursday, June 11, the President read the citation for the John Courtney Murray Award for distinguished achievement in theology. This year's recipient of the award was Gerard S. Sloyan. The text of the citation reads as follows:

Each year the Society offers to one of its members an honor for his or her past achievement in theology, the John Courtney Murray

Award. This year the award goes to a man who can truly be called a pioneer.

He was a pioneer in introducing to Americans new ways of pondering revelation when past theologies made such creativity almost unthinkable. He was a pioneer in the application of these new horizons of interpreting God's Word not only in theology but in religious education and liturgy.

His influence has been generous, widespread and catholic. At Catholic University and at Temple University his leadership led students into and through the past decades of ferment in the worlds of Church, faith and society. Whether at intimate liturgies in the 1950's or through the enormously influential liturgical weeks of the following decades, he has touched the lives of many Christians and many Christian churches.

So, it is with pride and joy that the Catholic Theological Society of America bestows in 1981 the John Courtney Murray Award on Gerard S. Sloyan.

#### ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

At 11:10 A.M. on Friday, June 12, the President, Thomas O'Meara, O.P., opened the annual business meeting with a brief prayer. Luke Salm, F.S.C., served as parliamentarian.

#### *Committee on Admissions*

Mary Minella, S.F.C.C., the chairperson of the Committee on Admissions, presented the committee's report. The other members of the committee were: John Morris, O.P., George Kilcourse, Robert Ludwig, and the Secretary of the CTSA. During the year seventy-nine inquiries were received. Fifty-nine qualified applications were returned. The committee recommended forty-eight candidates for Active membership and eleven candidates for Associate membership. This recommendation was approved by a voice-vote.

Of the new Active members, thirty-six are graduates of Catholic universities, twelve of secular universities. Thirty are graduates of universities in the United States; four are graduates of Canadian universities; fourteen are graduates of European universities, with eleven of these fourteen graduating from Roman universities. Six of the new Active members are graduates of the Catholic University of America. Several other schools, Fordham, St. Michael's of Toronto, and the Graduate Theological Union of Berkeley, had three graduates each among the new Active members. Thirty-two of the new Active members have the PhD degree; ten have the STD degree; and several others have various degrees such as the ThD, EdD, JCD, and a double licentiate.

Of the fifty-nine new members, sixteen are women. This is second to the number of women, seventeen, admitted in 1977.

Brief biographies of the new Active members and the names and addresses of the new Associate members are included in this year's *Proceedings* (Appendix B, *infra*).

#### *Nominating Committee*

The members of the nominating committee this year were: Timothy O'Connell (chairperson), Robert Imbelli, and Valentine Peter. O'Connell first gave a word of explanation about the packet of ballots that had been prepared in response to a motion at last year's business meeting that voting procedures be expedited. He then presented the slate of nominees:

- for *Vice-President*: Patrick Granfield, O.S.B., Catholic University  
Matthew Lamb, Marquette University
  - for *Secretary*: Edward Konerman, S.J., St. Mary of the Lake Seminary
  - for *Treasurer*: George Kilcourse, Bellarmine College, Louisville, KY
  - for *Board Members*: Donald McCarthy, Pope John Medical-Moral Research and Education Center  
T. Howland Sanks, S.J., Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley  
Peter Chirico, S.S., Theologian-in Residence, Archdiocese of Seattle  
Edmund Dobbin, O.S.A., Washington Theological Union
- Nominated from the floor were:
- for *Vice-President*: Bernard Cooke, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA
  - for *Board Member*: Joanne Dewart, University of St. Michael's College, Toronto

On the first ballot Bernard Cooke was elected Vice-President. The Secretary and the new Treasurer were elected by voice-votes. Joanne Dewart and T. Howland Sanks were elected to the Board on the second and fourth ballots respectively. The Vice-President during the past year, Leo O'Donovan, S.J., automatically becomes the new President for 1981-1982.

The others who continue to serve on the Board of Directors are: William J. Hill, O.P., and Thomas F. O'Meara, O.P., as the two immediate past Presidents; Edward Braxton and Margaret Farley, R.S.M., as Board members; and Luke Salm, F.S.C., as Executive Secretary.

It was generally agreed that the new packet of ballots, devised by Timothy O'Connell, did indeed expedite the voting procedures. Thanks were expressed by the President and the assembled members to the team that collected the ballots and tallied the vote: Timothy O'Connell, George Kilcourse, Regis Duffy, O.F.M., Alex Nagy, O.M.I., and Sister Cathy Hilkert, O.P.

While the various ballots were being tallied, the reports of the Officers were presented.

### *Secretary's Report*

1. The Secretary thanked the members of the Committee on Admissions for their prompt response in the consultation-by-mail about the applicants for membership. Mary Minella and John Morris leave the committee this year, having served two years. Robert Ludwig will serve next year as chairperson. George Kilcourse will become the new Treasurer.

2. The Secretary reviewed the process by which someone becomes a member and gets on the mailing list. When an initial inquiry is received, a form letter about credentials and application cards are sent to the inquirer. When the application card is returned, if it is fairly obvious that the admissions committee will eventually act positively on the application, a letter is sent to the applicant telling him or her that he or she will be accepted and that his or her name will be put on the CTSA mailing list in time for the Spring mailing with information about the convention. A copy of the CTSA Constitution is also sent to the applicant.

Sometime in April, after the April 1st deadline, the list of applicants with their credentials is sent to the members of the committee on admissions. They respond to the Secretary, indicating their approval of most of the applicants, offering their advice on any questionable applications.

There are always some late returns. The committee handles these early during the convention. The Secretary sends these late returns copies of the convention program as soon as he receives extra copies, and then puts them on the mailing list. So, all of this year's applicants, including the late returns, are included in the committee's recommendation of admission and are now on the mailing list.

Brief biographies of the new Active members and the names and addresses of the new Associate members will be included in the *Proceedings* as a kind of up-date of the *Directory*.

The Secretary encouraged all the members to suggest to their colleagues or their doctoral students who meet the membership requirements that they contact the Secretary to apply for member-

ship. The requirements for membership are: for Active membership, a doctoral degree in theological or related sciences; for Associate membership, the completion of course work in the doctoral program.

3. The Secretary then commented on the possibility of lapse of membership. If and when a member fails to pay the annual dues of \$15.00 for three successive years, his or her name is dropped from the mailing list. Just recently the Secretary was given the names of some thirty members who are due to be dropped. Before that happens, they will be contacted and asked to pay their back dues. Otherwise their names will be dropped from the mailing list at the end of August.

4. Finally, the Secretary made a remark, a personal one, concerning the retiring Treasurer, Michael Scanlon. This remark was originally not meant to be included in this report. But it was suggested from the floor that these words be included in the official report since, it seems, they reflect the feelings of very many members. The Secretary's salute to the retiring Treasurer: "Mike was most generous and helpful in breaking me in in the job of Secretary. Over the past five years I have truly enjoyed working with him throughout the year and at the conventions. He has become a very good friend. I want to thank him for all his help. I appreciate that very much. But even more I value his friendship."

#### *Treasurer's Report*

The Treasurer very briefly summarized his financial report which is contained in this issue of the *Proceedings*. As he retires from office, the Treasurer leaves the CTSA in a very good financial condition.

#### *Executive Secretary's Report*

1. The *Proceedings*. The delay in the delivery of last year's *Proceedings* was due to several factors: the size of the volume, the CSR work schedule at Waterloo, the American printer, and the slowness of the mail both in the United States and Canada. The complete set of the *Proceedings* has now been reproduced on microfilm by University Microfilm.

2. The *Directory*. The present plan is to put out a new *Directory* next year. Along with the President's letter next January, a questionnaire will be sent out to all the CTSA members with a view to up-dating their biographical entries. In that January mailing there will also be a questionnaire seeking the opinions of the general membership concerning our annual conventions: e.g., the sites, dates, themes, costs, etc.

3. *The Council on the Study of Religion.* The annual meeting of the CSR in October has now been restructured so as to involve as a voting participant only one representative from each member Society. The CTSA representative is the Executive Secretary. However, each Society can send to this meeting one or two other representatives who have voice but not vote. The Board of Directors decided to ask the new Treasurer, George Kilcourse, to attend the CSR meeting next October, since many of the Executive Secretaries of other Societies will be there and they do many of the things our Treasurer does.

4. *Notes for the Historical Records.* It was pointed out that in the Report on the Bilaterals, published in the 1979 *Proceedings*, several of the statements of the Anglican/Roman Catholic Consultation were listed with incorrect titles. This error will be corrected through an *Errata* page in the *Proceedings* and a note in the *CSR Bulletin*.

The first women members of the CTSA were Elizabeth Farians and Cathleen Going, who were admitted in 1965.

5. Finally, the Executive Secretary saluted the out-going Treasurer by pointing out that the present financial condition of the CTSA is much, much better than it was when the CTSA last met in Cincinnati in 1949.

### *President's Report*

1. The President first saluted Michael Scanlon, the retiring Treasurer. He announced that a special plaque would be given to Scanlon, and then entertained a motion expressing the thanks and appreciation of the CTSA members for all that Scanlon has done as Treasurer during the past six years. This motion was passed in a hearty round of applause.

2. *Amendment of the Constitution and By-Laws.* The President then entertained two motions to amend the Constitution and the By-Laws so as to remove sexist language. These amendments had been announced at last year's convention and again to all the CTSA members in the April issue of the *CSR Bulletin*.

#### First motion:

that the last part of the last sentence of Article I of the Constitution be changed to read: "... and to further the cause of unity among all peoples through a better appreciation of the role of religious faith in the life of human beings and society."

This motion was passed by a unanimous voice-vote.

#### Second motion:

that the second sentence of Article I, Section 1 of the By-Laws be changed to read: "The President shall have power..."



that in Sections 3 and 4 of Article I of the By-Laws the phrase "to him" be deleted;

that the second sentence of Article IV of the By-Laws be changed to read: "The members of a given region may elect their own chairperson or petition the President to appoint one."

This motion was passed by a unanimous voice-vote.

3. *Actions Taken on Proposals from Last Year's Business Meeting or Board Meeting.* The site of this year's convention was changed to Cincinnati. Further, a letter was sent to the various Catholic societies that back the ERA informing them of the CTSA's stance.

The President sent a memorandum to the Joint Committee of Catholic Learned Societies and Scholars expressing the concern of the CTSA that the structures and procedures of the JCCLSS and of the symposium it sponsors be improved. He received a positive response, and already some of the suggested changes are being implemented.

A letter was written expressing the serious concern of the CTSA about the proposed "Canon 64" (now Canon 767) that requires a canonical mission for all who teach theology or other related sciences in institutions of higher learning. This letter was sent to some fifty agencies that are concerned about this proposed canon or involved with the revision of the Code.

A joint CTSA/CLSA committee has been established and has made good progress. The Vice-President, who serves as the chairperson of this joint committee, will give a fuller report on it.

Finally, the new Publications Committee has worked out arrangements with the University of Notre Dame Press. They are now ready to receive manuscripts for the publication of one monograph each year.

#### *Vice-President's Report*

1. *The Joint CTSA/CLSA Committee.* This committee was established last year as the result of a recommendation in the report of the *ad hoc* committee headed by Leo O'Donovan. Its purpose was to develop a proposed set of norms to guide the resolution of difficulties which may arise in the relationships between theologians and the hierarchical magisterium in North America.

The members of the joint committee are: from the Canon Law Society: John Alesandro, Robert Carlson, and James Provost; from the Catholic Theological Society: John Boyle, Patrick Granfield, Jon Nilson, and Leo O'Donovan (*cf.* CSR *Bulletin*, December 1980).

In the first phase of the committee's work, six position papers have been prepared. Two papers, one by a canonist and one by a theologian, studied the rights and responsibilities of theologians. Two other papers, again by a canonist and a theologian, examined the rights and responsibilities of bishops. The final set of two papers by a canonist and a theologian evaluated the present procedures for resolving disagreements or disputes on doctrinal matters. In several full meetings the members of the joint committee have discussed and mutually criticized these papers. The committee expects to put these papers in final form at a September meeting. At that meeting, also, the committee intends to produce a Consensus Statement representing the views of the committee as a whole.

The committee believes that these finished background studies and the Consensus Statement will provide a fundamental rationale for the work of developing proposed procedures for resolving future difficulties in doctrinal matters. This work on procedures will occupy the second phase of the committee's work.

After its September meeting the committee will recommend to the Board of Directors of both Societies that these papers and the Consensus Statement be published jointly by the two Societies in order to elicit further study.

2. *The 1982 Convention.* The 1982 convention will be held at the New York Statler Hotel, Thursday to Sunday, June 10-13. The theme of the convention will be: "Power as an Issue in Theology." An effort will be made, beginning already at this convention, to improve the continuity of the Continuing Seminars.

### *New Business*

1. A motion was made by Cathleen Going:

Be it resolved that the reports of the Continuing Seminars be received for publication in the *Proceedings*.

Charles Curran offered an amendment by way of substitution:

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors should consider the question of receiving reports of the Continuing Seminars for publication, and make a decision by next year.

John Boyle moved that Curran's amendment be tabled. This motion was defeated in a voice-vote. After some brief discussion and clarification of the thrust of the original motion, Curran withdrew his amendment. The Going motion was then passed in a voice-vote.

2. A motion was made by James Coriden:

Whereas the proposed Canon 767 of the 1980 Schema of the Code of Canon Law, which requires a canonical mission for all who teach

theology, may seriously encumber the relationship between the hierarchy and the theological community and could have very deleterious effects on the work of theology,

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors of the Catholic Theological Society of America make strong representation to Archbishop Bernardin of our grave concern about the proposed Canon and urge him to work for its deletion from the Code.

In the discussion of this motion it was suggested that Archbishop Bernardin also be informed of the proportion of the vote for and against the motion. With approximately 168 Active members voting, the Coriden motion was passed with only two "No" votes.

3. A motion was made by Charles Dautremont:

Be it resolved that the policy of the CTSA shall be not to hold its annual convention on Saturday afternoons and Sundays.

Kenan Osborne offered an amendment:

That the word "generally" be added to the motion, so that the motion would read: "the policy of the CTSA shall be generally not to hold. . . ."

This amendment was accepted in a voice-vote. Then the Dautremont motion, amended to include the word "generally," was passed in a voice-vote.

4. Gerard Sloyan rose to inform the assembled members of the existence of an organization, incorporated in the state of Pennsylvania, known as The Association for the Rights of Catholics in the Church. Several CTSA members are members of the Board of Directors of ARCC.

There being no other new business, the President adjourned the business meeting of the 1981 convention.

EDWARD H. KONERMAN, S.J., *Secretary*  
*St. Mary of the Lake Seminary*  
*Mundelein, IL*