

SECRETARY'S REPORT

THE THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

The thirty-seventh annual convention of the Catholic Theological Society of America was held June 10–13, 1982, at the Statler Hotel in New York City. The theme of the convention was: "Power as an Issue in Theology." The convention began with the first Plenary Session Thursday evening, June 10. Friday morning, June 11, His Eminence Terence Cardinal Cooke welcomed the convention participants to New York. The convention's Eucharistic liturgy was celebrated Saturday afternoon, June 12, in St. Francis of Assisi Church. A cocktail hour and the convention banquet were held Friday evening. At dessert time during the banquet the recipient of the John Courtney Murray Award was announced and presented with the award.

CONVENTION PROGRAM

Thursday, June 10

8:00–9:30 P.M.—FIRST PLENARY SESSION

Power, the Powers, and a Higher Power. John A. Coleman, S.J., Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley.

Friday, June 11

9:00–10:30 A.M.—SECOND PLENARY SESSION

Religion and Power in America Today. Robert N. Bellah, University of California, Berkeley.

11:00–12:30 P.M.—CONTINUING SEMINARS (First Session)

1. Theological Anthropology: *Power and the Human Situation.* Michael J. Scanlon, O.S.A., Washington Theological Union.
2. Christology: *Franz Jozef van Beeck's "Christ Proclaimed."* Elizabeth Johnson, C.S.J., Catholic University of America; Michael L. Cook, S.J., Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley; Franz Jozef van Beeck, S.J., Boston College.
3. Trinitarian Theology: *Naming the Spirit: An Exercise in Power.* Mary Ann Donovan, S.C., and Donald L. Gelpi, S.J., Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley.
4. Ecclesiology: *Office in the Church.* John P. Galvin, St. John's Seminary, Brighton.
5. Spirituality: *Revisiting an Experiential Approach to Salvation.* Vernon J. Gregson, Jr., Loyola University, New Orleans; Sebastian Moore, O.S.B., Marquette University.
6. Moral Theology: *The Future Agenda for Catholic Moral Theology in America.* David Hollenbach, S.J., Weston School of Theology; Benedict M. Ashley, O.P., Aquinas Institute; Charles E. Curran, Catholic

- University of America; Anthony R. Kosnik, Sts. Cyril and Methodius Seminary; Richard A. McCormick, S.J., Kennedy Institute, Georgetown University.
7. *Patristics: Military Force and the Christian Conscience in the Early Church: A Methodological Approach*. Robert J. Daly, S.J., Boston College; John Helgeland, North Dakota State University; J. Patout Burns, S.J., Loyola University, Chicago.
 8. *Theology and the Social Sciences: The Power of the Poor: Theological and Sociological Perspectives*. Gregory Baum, University of St. Michael's College.
 9. *Nineteenth Century Theology: Teaching Authority and Infallibility in the Church (Lutherans and Catholics in Dialogue VI)*. John T. Ford, C.S.C., Catholic University of America; Joseph A. Burgess, Theological Studies Division, Lutheran Council in the U.S.A.; Carl J. Peter, Catholic University of America.
 10. *Theological Method: The Public and the Aesthetic in David Tracy's "The Analogical Imagination."* Stephen Happel, St. Meinrad School of Theology; David Tracy, Divinity School, University of Chicago.

2:00-3:30 P.M.—CONVENTION WORKSHOPS

1. *Power in the New Testament*. Pheme Perkins, Boston College.
2. *Rights of Conscience as Limits of Power*. James Gaffney, Loyola University, New Orleans.
3. *Priesthood, Power and the Spirit*. Edward J. Kilmartin, S.J., University of Notre Dame.
4. *Women and Power in the Church*. Anne E. Carr, B.V.M., Divinity School, University of Chicago; Mary Buckley, St. John's University; JoAnn Wolski Conn, Neumann College; Margaret Farley, R.S.M., Yale Divinity School; Jamie Phelps, O.P., Catholic University of America; Sandra Schneiders, I.H.M., Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley.
5. *Power and Liberation Theology: Three Theses*. Roger D. Haight, S.J., Regis College, Toronto; Leroy F. Cormie, University of St. Michael's College; Matthew Lamb, Marquette University; David J. Stagaman, S.J., Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley.
6. *Power as Persuasion in Process Thought*. Jane Kopas, O.S.F., University of Scranton; Robert L. Kinast, Catholic University of America; Joseph A. Bracken, S.J., Marquette University.
7. *Democratic Capitalism and the Power of Faith*. Peter Steinfels, Executive Editor, *Commonweal*.
8. *Theological Reflections on Nuclear Weapons and the Quest for Disarmament*. Joseph J. Fahey, Manhattan College; Most Reverend Thomas J. Gumbleton, Auxiliary Bishop of Detroit; Francis X. Meehan, St. Charles Borromeo Seminary.

3:45-5:15 P.M.—THIRD PLENARY SESSION

- Power, Powerlessness and the Mystery of Christ*. Brian O. McDermott, S.J., Weston School of Theology.

Saturday, June 12

7:15-8:30 A.M.—BUFFET BREAKFAST DISCUSSION

Theology of World Evangelization in Christology and Ecclesiology. Hosted by John Farren, O.P. and Joseph Gremillion of the Society for Propagation of the Faith.

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

The Nature and Use of Power in the Church. Richard McBrien, University of Notre Dame.

2:30-4:00 P.M.—FIFTH PLENARY SESSION

Sacraments: Symbolizing God's Power in the Church. David N. Power, O.M.I., Catholic University of America.

8:00-9:30 P.M.—OPEN FORUM

Cooperation between Theologians and the Ecclesiastical Magisterium. Panel: Members of the Joint CTSA/CLSA Committee.

Sunday, June 13

9:15-10:45 A.M.—CONTINUING SEMINARS (Second Session)

The same Seminars continued from Friday, except for:

9. Nineteenth Century Theology: *Thomas O'Meara's "Romantic Idealism and Roman Catholicism: Schelling and the Theologians."* Francis Schüssler Fiorenza, Catholic University of America; Thomas F. O'Meara, O.P., University of Notre Dame.

11:15 A.M.—PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of Power and Might. Leo J. O'Donovan, S.J.

John Courtney Murray Award

At dessert time during the convention banquet on the evening of Friday, 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 George J. Dyer, editor of *Chicago Studies*. The text of the citation read as follows:

The Catholic Theological Society of America annually selects for commendation an individual noted for distinguished achievement in theology and bestows upon that individual its John Courtney Murray Award. In 1982 the Society honors one of its best known and most appreciated members, a man who has contributed to our discipline in ways both highly significant and amazingly diverse.

We honor him as a theological scholar. Since his early work on the salvation of infants, he has researched and published on topics such as the theology of creation and sin, the notion of doctrinal development, the theology of death, and the relationship of Christianity and other world religions.

We honor him as an innovator in theological education. In the decade following the Second Vatican Council, he was Academic Dean of a large and influential major seminary. There his vision guided the design and implementation of a creative, multi-disciplinary program.

We honor him as a theologically reflective pastor. In the course of providing leadership to a local congregation for the last five years, he has expedited the all-important dialogue between experience and scholarship. He has contributed theological commentary on the pastoral scene, and he has offered pastoral critique of theological formulation.

But most especially we honor him for his contribution to theology in the founding, guiding, shaping, and developing of one of the finest theological journals of our land. In the more than 20 years of its existence this publication has presented the thought of an amazing array of experts. In its pages have appeared the reflections of distinguished members of the hierarchy such as Albert Meyer, Joseph Bernardin, Thomas Grady, Thomas Murphy, Remi de Roo. It has made available to us the scholarship of theologians such as Courtney Murray, Congar, and Haring; Dulles, Curran, and Tavad; Brown, Hauerwas, and McBrien; McCormick, Baum, and Malatesta. The conversation between theology and other disciplines has been advanced by contributions from Provost, Finnegan and Green; Greeley and Kennedy; Cesar Chavez and Johannes Hofinger.

But it is not just the expertise of its authors that has singled out this journal and marked the contribution of our honoree. It is also the creative way in which talent has been applied to important individual themes. We recall the overview issues in dogma, moral, canon law, scripture, liturgy, spirituality, and a recent up-date which returned to all of those, once again. We note with appreciation numbers dedicated to stress in ministry, the status of marriage, the role of story in theology, and the relationship of the theologian and the magisterium. And we acknowledge that in these focused presentations our discipline has been gifted both with creative syntheses of the pressing issues of our time and with clearly articulated states of the question for further research.

But perhaps most significant is the style and approach exemplified by this journal. The publication understands itself as presenting the best of contemporary scholarship in a direct and uncluttered format. In doing this it both models and advances the cause of pastoral theology. It demonstrates that accessibility need not be at the cost of scholarly precision, and it affirms the truth that within the Catholic perspective theology exists in service to the people of God.

The prestige of the journal itself has been witnessed by many awards from the Catholic Press Association. Today we wish to celebrate the vision and the commitment of the man most responsible. Therefore, because he is a respected theologian; because he is a creative theological visionary; because he is an exemplar of civilized theological discourse; because he is an inspiring priest; and because he is a supportive theological colleague and a true and gracious gentleman, the Catholic Theological Society of America is proud to confer the John Courtney Murray Award for Distinguished Achievement in Theology to the Editor of *Chicago Studies* and Pastor of St. Patrick's Church, Wadsworth, Illinois, the Reverend George J. Dyer.

Annual Business Meeting

At 11:05 A.M. on Saturday, June 12, the President, Leo J. O'Donovan, S.J., opened the annual business meeting with a brief prayer. Luke Salm, F.S.C. served as parliamentarian.

Committee on Admissions

Robert Ludwig, the chairperson of the Committee on Admissions presented the committee's report. The other members of the committee were: Jane Russell, O.S.F., Donald Cozzens, David McBriar, O.F.M., and the Secretary of the CTSA. McBriar and Cozzens will continue to serve on the committee next year, with Cozzens acting as chairperson.

During the year there were seventy-two initial inquiries about membership. Fifty-eight applications were returned to the Office of the Secretary. The committee eventually approved forty-four applications for active membership and fourteen for associate membership.

Thirteen of the new members this year are women: four active and nine associate. This brings the total number of women members to approximately one hundred and thirty, roughly one-tenth of the total membership.

Of the new active members, twenty-three have the PhD degree, sixteen have the STD degree, and six have other doctoral degrees. Eleven of the new active members are graduates of non-Catholic schools, while thirty-two are graduates of Catholic schools. Twenty-seven are graduates of universities in the United States and Canada; thirteen are graduates of Roman universities; two are graduates of other European universities. There are six new active members from the Gregorian and six from the Angelicum. There are four from the Catholic University of America and four from Notre Dame. Three of the new active members are from Fordham, and two each from St. Michael's in Toronto and from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley.

The brief biographies of the new active members and the names and addresses of the new associate members will be included in the new Directory that will be published later this year.

The recommendation of the Committee on Admissions that these fifty-eight new members be accepted into the Society was approved by a voice-vote. Those new members who were present were asked to stand, and received a round of applause. As new members, they were now eligible to vote during the rest of the meeting.

Amendment of the Constitution and the By-Laws

The President presented a motion from the Board of Directors to amend the Constitution and the By-Laws so as to re-structure the officership of the CTSA. The amendments would affect Article III, Sections 1, 2, and 3 of the Constitution on Officers and Their Election, and Article I, Section 2 of the By-Laws on Duties of Officers.

The intent of the proposed amendments was to provide for a new office of President-Elect. The wording of the amendments and an explanation of the rationale for them had been sent to all the CTSA members earlier in the *CSR Bulletin* and in the Spring mailing of the convention program.

The text of the proposed amended Article III reads as follows (with the amended wording underlined):

ARTICLE III—OFFICERS AND THEIR ELECTION

1. The officers shall consist of a President, a President-elect, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer. This shall be the order of succession of officers in the case of absence or disability.

2. The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers of the Society—namely, the President, President-elect, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, and five (5) other Directors, elected as provided in Section 3 of this Article.
3. Elections and voting in general shall be governed by the following provisions:
 - a) Active members alone shall be eligible to vote and to hold office. Election to office shall be by a simple majority vote of those present at the annual business meeting. The President-elect shall automatically succeed to the presidency. The Vice-President shall automatically succeed to the presidency-elect. The retiring President shall automatically become a member of the Board of Directors for a one-year term. Annually two other members shall be elected to the Board of Directors for a term of two years. In the event that the Vice-President or President-elect or retiring President are unable or unwilling to succeed to the offices indicated above, another member shall be elected in their stead.
 - b) —Reads as is at present.

The text of the proposed amendment of Article I, Section 2 of the By-Laws reads as follows (with the amended wording underlined):

ARTICLE I—DUTIES OF OFFICERS

2. The President-elect or, if the President-elect is unable, the Vice-President, at the request of the President, or in the event of the absence or disability of the same, shall perform the duties of the office of the President.

The President then explained how in practice in this transition year we would fill these offices if the amendments were passed. Three people would be nominated for the Officer positions. The first to achieve a majority vote would be the Vice-President. The second to achieve a majority vote would be the President-Elect. The President also mentioned that the several nominees had all been informed of this new possibility and had all graciously agreed to this procedure.

The amendments of the Constitution and the By-Laws were passed by a unanimous voice-vote.

Nominating Committee

The members of the nominating committee this year were: Robert Imbelli (chair), Sara Butler, M.S.B.T., and John Wright, S.J. Imbelli presented the slate of nominees:

—for Vice-President, and for President-Elect:

Patrick Granfield, O.S.B., Catholic University of America

Michael Fahey, S.J., Concordia University, Montreal

Timothy O'Connell, Loyola University, Chicago

—for Secretary:

Edward Konerman, S.J., St. Mary of the Lake Seminary, Mundelein

—for Treasurer:

George Kilcourse, Bellarmine College, Louisville

—for Board Members:

Mary Ann Donovan, S.C., Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley

J. Patout Burns, S.J., Loyola University, Chicago
Stephen Happel, St. Meinrad School of Theology
David Hollenbach, S.J., Weston School of Theology

There were no nominations from the floor. On the second ballot Patrick Granfield was elected Vice-President. On the next ballot Michael Fahey was elected President-Elect. The Secretary and the Treasurer were elected by voice-vote. Mary Ann Donovan and David Hollenbach were elected to the Board on the second and third ballots respectively. The Vice-President during the past year, Bernard Cooke, automatically becomes the new President for 1982-1983.

The others who continue to serve on the Board of Directors are: Thomas O'Meara, O.P. and Leo O'Donovan, S.J. as past-presidents; Joanne Dewart and T. Howland Sanks, S.J. as Board members; and Luke Salm, F.S.C. as Executive Secretary.

While the various ballots were being tallied by the nominating committee and their generous helpers, the reports of the Officers were presented.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary thanked the members of the Committee on Admissions for their cooperation in the consultation-by-mail about the applications for membership. All of them were present at the convention and at the registration desk they gave their approval of the late application-returns.

Next the Secretary reviewed the requirements for CTSA membership. For active membership one must have a doctorate in theology or some related discipline. Ordinarily the D.Min. degree does not fulfill this requirement, but each individual applicant with a D.Min. degree is evaluated on his or her own merits. For associate membership one should have completed the course work for the doctorate.

Already during this convention a good number of people have asked for application cards. The Secretary urged the members to encourage their colleagues or their doctoral students to contact the Secretary's Office to begin the process of becoming a member of the CTSA. The sooner this is done, the better, since the Secretary tries to get the names of the applicants on the CSR mailing list, after the CTSA dues notice has gone out, but in time for the January and Spring mailings about the coming convention.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer first gave a brief summary of his financial report which is contained in this issue of the *Proceedings*. He then informed the members that in view of the fact that our funds for special projects and for covering the costs of the conventions are steadily dwindling, the Board has decided to raise the annual membership dues from \$15.00 to \$20.00 a year.

Finally, the Treasurer alerted the members to the possibility of arranging group fares for air-travel to convention sites. He is going to continue to investigate this. He hopes to be able to give the members further information about this in the January mailing about the convention.

Executive Secretary's Report

The Executive Secretary gave his, as usual and as expected, informative and enjoyable report, interrupted on occasion by word of white smoke or black smoke in the various ballots.

The Business Office of the *Proceedings* has been moved from Darlington to Manhattan College in the Bronx. Sufficient copies of back issues have been saved. Copies of the front cover of the *Proceedings* from thirty years ago, with an embossed colored seal of the Society, were made available to any who wished them.

The Executive Secretary and the Treasurer both attended the meeting of the Council on the Study of Religion last October. Our belonging to the CSR continues to be of help to the CTSA, especially for the maintenance of the membership list, the collection of dues, and the news column that the CTSA has in the *CSR Bulletin*. The members are encouraged to read the *Bulletin*, at least the CTSA news column, since the Officers use that as a way of communicating with the membership.

The *Proceedings* this year were again long-delayed, mostly because of the heavy work-load at the CSR in Waterloo. Next year we will experiment with a different printer. Papers given in the Workshops will be included, but only summaries of the discussions in the Continuing Seminars.

The Executive Secretary next commented on the results of the questionnaire that had been sent out in January. As to the time of the annual convention, a big majority of the respondents still favor the present dates. As to the question of holding the convention in hotels or at universities or seminaries, a majority still prefer the present practice. However, a significant minority prefer going to universities or seminaries. The Board is going to investigate this further, and a different setting might be tried some year soon.

Tax-exemption for the CTSA has been secured in the state of New York since the CTSA will be listed next year in the official Catholic Directory. Then the Executive Secretary will pursue securing tax-exemption with the federal government and also with individual states in which we hold conventions.

The new *Directory* is in preparation. It should be mailed in the Fall. It will be shortened a bit by including only titles of books in the biographic entries. It will also be "declericalized" by omitting titles (such as Rev. etc.) and the letters indicating membership in religious Orders or congregations.

Publications Committee Report

The members of this committee are Thomas O'Meara, O.P. (chair), Clyde Crews, Diana Culbertson, O.P., and Patrick Granfield, O.S.B. The committee has arranged for the publication of one book this year, a study in ethics by Philip Rossi.

President's Report

The President first thanked all those who had contributed to this year's convention: the speakers for the plenary sessions and Workshops, the moderators of the Continuing Seminars, the hosts of the Buffet Breakfast Discussion. He also thanked David Toolan who served as a kind of press agent, and Sr. Jane Ronayne who provided the visitors' tips for New York.

At its October meeting the Board of Directors decided to change the procedures for the January and Spring mailings about the upcoming convention. These two mailings will now be handled by the Treasurer and the President-Elect. This was done this year and it seemed to be successful, especially in insuring earlier mailings.

The President reminded the members that the CTSA does have funds for sponsoring research projects; he encouraged the members to consider initiating such research projects.

The CTSA continues to be a member of the Joint Committee of Catholic Learned Societies and Scholars. Donald Buggert, O.Carm. is the CTSA representative.

The Joint Committee of the CTSA and the CLSA on relations between theologians and the ecclesiastical magisterium in North America has finished the first phase of its work. Copies of the report will be sent to all the bishops. A number of copies were available to be purchased here at the convention. The President especially thanked James Provost for expediting the publication of this report.

In January the President sent out the annual letter of information and appeal for support to the bishops of the United States. In response the CTSA received about \$5,775.00.

The President contacted the moderators of the various Continuing Seminars to offer a couple of suggestions as to improving the organization and structure of these seminars. One suggestion was that the members of the seminars themselves regularly assess their own continuing. The second suggestion was that the members of the seminars themselves choose a three-person steering committee for each seminar.

The World Council of Churches will be meeting next summer in Vancouver. The President has already made some initial contacts about this. The new President will pursue this.

Vice-President's Report

The 1983 convention will be held in Minneapolis, June 15-18. The theme will be something like "Discontinuities in Christianity and Theology." The Vice-President would also like to follow up some of the discussions in the present convention by including some sessions dealing with the development of a theology of peace. But the Vice-President did not want to develop the convention program too much or too quickly since if the proposed amendment passed (as it has), the newly elected President-Elect would be working with him on the convention program.

Motions by the Board of Directors

The President next presented two motions from the Board of Directors.

1. The first motion was one on disarmament. It was a slightly re-worded version of the statement originally made by members of the faculty, staff, and student body of the Harvard Divinity School. In passing the motion the CTSA would be joining other scholars and institutions in making this statement their own. The motion read as follows:

The Catholic Theological Society of America wishes to state publicly our conviction that the use of nuclear weapons, under any circumstances, is contrary to the will of God. While there may have been just wars in the past, the inability to place traditional constraints on nuclear war now makes any more justification impossible.

We urge our colleagues in academic institutions and faith communities to join us in condemning nuclear war in any form, and in calling for an immediate, world-wide freeze on the production of nuclear weapons, a staged reduction of present nuclear arsenals, and the eventual abolition of all nuclear arms.

In the name of God, let us speak out now, lest our silence once again make us accomplices to holocaust, this one threatening the very existence of humankind.

There was some brief discussion during which some reservation was expressed. The motion passed on a voice-vote.

2. The second motion concerned the colloquia jointly sponsored by the Joint Committee of Catholic Learned Societies and Scholars and the Committee on Doctrine of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. The motion read as follows:

Be it resolved: that the theologians selected to participate in the colloquia jointly sponsored by the Joint Committee of Catholic Learned Societies and Scholars and the Committee on Doctrine of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops be appointed by the JCCLSS, not subject to veto by any other party.

After some brief discussion, the motion passed on a voice-vote.

New Business

Patout Burns, S.J. rose, not to make a motion, but simply to seek a "sense of the group" about possibly re-structuring the convention so as not to have more than one plenary session each day. This would allow more time for Workshops and Continuing Seminars. A majority of members seemed to favor this.

There being no other new business, the President adjourned the business meeting of the 1982 convention.

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