

SECRETARY'S REPORT

THE THIRTY—EIGHTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

The thirty-eighth annual convention of the Catholic Theological Society of America was held June 15-18, 1983, at the Sheraton Ritz Hotel in Minneapolis. The theme of the convention was: "Treasures Old and New: Theology Since Vatican II." The convention began with a First Special Session Wednesday evening, June 15. 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. A special convention liturgy was celebrated Friday afternoon in connection with the Second Special Session on the theology of peace. The liturgy was followed by a reception hosted by the local colleges of St. Catherine and St. Thomas and by the seminaries of St. Paul and St. John's, Collegeville.

CONVENTION PROGRAM

Wednesday, June 15

8:00-9:30 P.M.—FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

The Role of Women in Theology

Coordinator: Denise Lardner Carmody, Wichita State University. Panelists: Joan Timmerman, College of St. Catherine; Joan Wolski Conn, Neumann College; Walter Conn, Villanova University; Mary Boys, Boston College.

Thursday, June 16

9:30-11:00 A.M.—FIRST PLENARY SESSION

The Future of Theism

Daniel O'Hanlon, Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley.

1:30-5:00 P.M.—CONTINUING SEMINARS (First Session)

1. Trinitarian Theology

Chair: Mary Ann Donovan, Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley.

Trinity: Metaphor and Model, Catherine LaCugna, University of Notre Dame. *Vision of the Trinity*, Lorine Getz, Somerville, MA. *Meaning of "Person" in Trinitarian Theology*, William Hill, The Catholic University of America.

2. Christology

Chair: Elizabeth Johnson, The Catholic University of America.

Logos Christology and the Doctrine of the Incarnation: Origins and Renewal.

3. Ecclesiology

Chair: John Galvin, St. John's Seminary.

The Papacy in the Light of Recent Ecumenical Dialogue.

4. Theological Anthropology

Chair: Michael Scanlon, Washington Theological Union.

Continuities and Discontinuities in Christian Eschatology. John Lodge and Charles Meyer, St. Mary of the Lake Seminary; John Farrelly, De Sales School of Theology.

5. Moral Theology

General Session (1:30-2:45)

Foundational Status of Justice in Moral Theology, Daniel Maguire, Marquette University.

Separate Working Groups (3:00-5:00)

Rethinking Virtue, John Boyle, University of Iowa. *The Personal is Political: Exploring the Relation between Personal and Social Morality*, Anne Patrick, Carleton College. *The Ethical Implications of Schillebeeckx's Christology*, Leo O'Donovan, Weston School of Theology.

6. Spirituality

Chair: Vernon Gregson, Jr., Loyola University in New Orleans.

Spirituality as a Source for Theology. Francine Cardman, Weston School of Theology; Elizabeth Dreyer, College of St. Catherine; Keith Egan, Marquette University; Priscilla Pedersen, University of Notre Dame; Thomas Dunne, Regis College, Toronto; Sebastian Moore, Marquette University.

7. Theological Method

Chair: Stephen Happel, St. Meinrad School of Theology.

The Nature and Method of Theology: Two Schools of Process Thought. Bernard Lee, St. John's University, Colledgeville; Michael Vertin, University of St. Michael's College.

8. Theology and the Social Sciences

Interdisciplinary Explorations

Chair: Paul Surliss, St. John's University, New York.

A Feminist Perspective on Theological Method, Mary Buckley, St. John's University, New York. *Ecclesiology and the Social Sciences*, Joseph Komonchak, The Catholic University of America. *The Self as Social: George Herbert Mead*, Katherine Ferguson, Siena College. *What Theology Can Learn from Sociology*, Brian O'Connell, St. John's University, New York. *Context and Theological Method: The United States of America*, Paul Surliss, St. John's University, New York.

9. Nineteenth Century Theology

Chair: Francis Schussler Fiorenza, The Catholic University of America.

Tyrrell's Understanding of Authority. Ellen Leonard, University of St. Michael's College; David Schultenover, Creighton University.

9:00-10:30 P.M.—OPEN FORUM

Doctrinal Responsibilities, The Final Report of the Joint CTSA/CLSA Committee.

Chair: Leo O'Donovan, Weston School of Theology. Panelists: John Boyle, University of Iowa; Patrick Granfield, The Catholic University of America; Jon Nilson, Loyola University of Chicago.

Friday, June 17

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

Changing Soteriology in Ecumenical Context, Monika Hellwig, Georgetown University; Joseph Burgess, Lutheran Council in U.S.A.

11:00-12:00 Noon—CONTINUING SEMINARS (Second Session)

As on Thursday afternoon except:

1. Trinitarian Theology

Chair: Catherine LaCugna, University of Notre Dame.

Selected Post-Vatican II Developments, Mary Ann Donovan, Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley.

9. Nineteenth Century Theology

Infallibility and Reception, Margaret O'Gara, University of St. Michael's College. *Vatican I: Two Modes of Discourse?* John Ford, The Catholic University of America.

3:00-4:45 P.M.—SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

Towards a Theology of Peace

Coordinator: Joseph Fahey, Manhattan College.

Panelists: Agnes Cunningham, St. Mary of the Lake Seminary; David O'Brien, College of the Holy Cross; Patrick Collins, Diocese of Peoria; Thomas Shannon, Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Saturday, June 18

9:15-10:45 A.M.—THIRD PLENARY SESSION

Orthopraxis: Starting-point of Theological Reflection. Robert Kinast, The Catholic University of America.

11:15 A.M.—PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Death and Resurrection of Sacraments, Bernard Cooke.

John Courtney Murray Award

At dessert time during the convention banquet on the evening of Thursday June 16, the President read the citation for the John Courtney Murray Award for distinguished achievement in theology. The recipient of the award this year was William Hill. The text of the citation reads as follows:

This year's recipient of the John Courtney Murray award, William Hill, O.P., exemplifies in a notable way the dialectical resolution of continuity and discontinuity which the present moment demands of us who are committed to the theological life of the Church.

Formed theologically in the rich tradition that flows from Thomas Aquinas through centuries of reflective commentary, our recipient has moved creatively

within that tradition, faithful to its deepest insights but not shackled to slavish repetition. For him Aquinas has been not a bible to exegete but a paradigm of exciting theological activity. For him, as for many of us, Thomas Aquinas has remained a master, but discipleship has grown from admiration, stimulation, and guidance into that deepest kind of imitation which is the development of one's own insights and discoveries in open interaction with centuries of Christian tradition and with thinkers of the past and of the present.

William Hill has truly become a Master of Theology in his own right, one whose own research has appropriately turned ever more to the ultimate mystery, the triune God. Being a master implies, of course, more than one's scholarly work; it implies the magisterial role of communicating to others one's own understandings but even more importantly the heritage of Christian wisdom to which a theologian in the church is meant to minister. Our recipient has exercised this role through a long and distinguished teaching career, forming hundreds of students during three decades in the classroom, and teaching all of us by his writings.

William Hill is a theologian's theologian, but more than that. Taking seriously the special historic mission of his Order, he has been an important influence in advancing the ministry of preaching. At a time in the church's life when the very nature of preaching has undergone important change, he has worked to safeguard seriousness of content and theological accuracy as intrinsic elements of homiletic effectiveness.

For his service to the theological community, especially to our own Society, for his devotion to teaching and his contribution to scholarly research, for his ministry as a theologian to the people of God, the Catholic Theological Society of America is honored to confer the John Courtney Murray Award on William Hill of the Order of Preachers.

Annual Business Meeting

At 1:20 P.M. on Friday, June 17, the President, Bernard Cooke, opened the annual business meeting, and asked Past-President Leo O'Donovan to lead the assembled members in a brief prayer. Joseph Nearon served as parliamentarian.

Committee on Admissions

Donald Cozzens, the chairperson of the Committee on Admissions, presented the committee's report. The other members of the committee were: Joseph Bracken, Catherine LaCugna, and the Secretary of the CTSA. David McBriar had served on the committee last year, but resigned from the committee this last March. Bracken and LaCugna will continue on the committee next year, with Bracken serving as chairperson.

During the year there were seventy-four initial contacts inquiring about membership. Sixty applications were returned to the Office of the Secretary. The committee eventually approved forty-five applications for active membership and fifteen for associate membership.

Sixteen of the new members were women. Of the new active members, twenty-nine graduated from Catholic universities, sixteen from secular universities. Twenty-nine are graduates of schools in the United States, two are graduates of schools in Canada. Seven graduated from Roman schools, and another seven graduated from other schools in Europe. Six of

the new active members come from the Catholic University of America. Seven other schools (Gregorian, Angelicum, Louvain, Marquette, Notre Dame, Chicago, and Vanderbilt) each graduated three new active members. Twenty-eight of the new active members have the PhD degree, nine have the STD degree, and eight have other degrees such as the ThD or the JCD.

Brief biographies of the new active members and the names and addresses of the new associate members are included in the Directory-Update appendix of this volume of the *Proceedings*.

The recommendation of the committee on admissions that these sixty applicants be accepted into the Society was approved by a voice-vote. Twenty-eight of the new members were attending the convention. They were asked to stand, and were welcomed by a round of applause. The President then invited them to come to his suite after the liturgy later that afternoon for a little "Welcome" reception.

Nominating Committee

The members of the nominating committee this year were: Sara Butler, Thomas Shannon, and George Dyer. Shannon will serve on the committee again next year as the chairperson. Sara Butler, this year's chairperson, presented the slate of nominees whose biographies had been made available for convention participants at the time of registration:

—for Vice-President:

Peter Chirico, from the Archdiocese of Seattle; Francis Fiorenza, from The Catholic University of America.

—for Secretary:

Edward Konerman, from St. Mary of the Lake Seminary, Mundelein.

—for Treasurer:

George Kilcourse, from Bellarmine College, Louisville.

—for Board Members:

Walter Conn, from Villanova University; Zachary Hayes, from Catholic Theological Union, Chicago; Timothy O'Connell, from the Institute of Pastoral Studies of Loyola University, Chicago; Sandra Schneiders, from the Jesuit School of Theology, Berkeley.

Anthony Kosnik was nominated from the floor to be a member of the Board.

Francis Fiorenza was elected Vice-President. The Secretary and the Treasurer were elected by acclamation. Anthony Kosnik and Timothy O'Connell were elected Board Members on the second and fourth ballots respectively.

Michael Fahey, the President-Elect during the past year, automatically becomes the new President for 1983-1984. Vice-President Patrick Granfield becomes the President-Elect. The others who continue to serve on the Board of Directors are: Leo O'Donovan and Bernard Cooke as Past-Presidents, Mary Ann Donovan and David Hollenbach as Board

Members, and Luke Salm as Executive Secretary.

While the various ballots were being counted, reports were given by the other Officers.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary thanked the members of the committee on admissions for their prompt cooperation in the review-by-mail process and also for their concern for welcoming the new members who were in attendance at the convention. He also thanked the members of the nominating committee, especially the chairperson for preparing the biographies and ballots and getting them to the convention.

The Secretary again urged the members to encourage their colleagues or their doctoral students to apply for membership. Application cards can be obtained from the Office of the Secretary, St. Mary of the Lake Seminary, Mundelein IL 60060.

Finally, those members with changes of address were asked to notify the Secretary so that he could see to correcting the computer mailing-list.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer gave a brief summary of his financial report which is contained in this issue of the *Proceedings*. The balance as of January, 1982 was considerably lower than the balance of the previous year. The two big, extra expenses in 1982 were the special Board meeting in February, 1982, and the costs of the Joint CTSA/CLSA Committee's work and the publication of its position papers.

The attempt to explore the possibilities of lower group air-fares seems to have been successful inasmuch as the travel agency involved advised the eighteen members who requested such group fares that with the present condition of air travel they could obtain better rates on their own.

Vice-President's Report

The 1984 convention of the CTSA will be held at Georgetown University in Washington, DC, June 13-16. The theme for the convention will be "The World Church." More information on the 1984 convention will be forthcoming in the *CSR Bulletin*.

Executive Secretary's Report

The business office of the *Proceedings* has been moved to Manhattan College in the Bronx. The new Directory has been sent out, and will be updated each year in the *Proceedings*. Publication of last year's *Proceedings* by a new printer was quicker and cheaper. There were, however, a few reports of pages being out of order. Members should check their copies of the *Proceedings*. The deadline for manuscripts for this year's *Proceedings* is July 10th.

The Council on the Study of Religion is now seeking to develop

relations with the National Endowment for the Humanities. In this connection, the CSR will meet for two days this Fall in Washington.

Finally, the Executive Secretary moved the adoption of the following statement to salute Monsignor Richard T. Doherty, charter member and past President:

The Catholic Theological Society of America, meeting in the Twin Cities for the first time in twenty-five years, takes this opportunity to remember with affection the Reverend Monsignor Richard T. Doherty.

A charter member of the Society, Monsignor Doherty provided with imagination and devotion the local arrangements for the 1958 convention in St. Paul which have hardly been matched from that day to this.

As President during the Vatican II years (1963-1964), he guided the Society in a transitional and critical moment in its history. To this zealous priest, ardent humanist and distinguished Catholic theologian, the Catholic Theological Society of America sends heartfelt greetings and best wishes *ad multos annos*.

The motion was seconded by Charles Curran and passed unanimously by acclamation. A telegram was sent to Monsignor Doherty informing him of the Society's salute.

Publications Committee

Thomas O'Meara, chairperson of the publications committee, reported on the committee's work. The other members of the committee are: Patrick Granfield, Diana Culbertson, and Clyde Crews. In cooperation with the Notre Dame Press the committee seeks to arrange that the CTSA contribute to the publication of one book a year with a \$1500. subsidy. A first volume by Philip Rossi is being published this year. A second volume by Clyde Crews has been accepted for publication.

President-Elect's Report

The President-Elect this year cooperated with the President in developing the annual convention. The President-Elect took care of the continuing seminars. He urged the moderators of these seminars to submit to the new President-Elect, Patrick Granfield, reports on the seminars and plans for their continuation at next year's convention.

The President-Elect also served as the chairperson of a research team set up by the Board of Directors at its meeting last October. This research team is studying the Lima Statement of the World Council of Churches on Baptism, Eucharist and Ministry. The team has been organized and includes PHEME PERKINS, GEORGE WORGUL, WILLIAM MARRAVEE, and EDWARD KILMARTIN. Others, perhaps, will be asked to help as consultants. The committee plans to report on its work at next year's convention, and to finish its study by December, 1984 as requested by the WCC.

President's Report

1983 Convention

The President first commented on the excellent way in which he and the President-Elect were able to work together in developing this year's

convention. In response to the wishes of the members, fewer plenary sessions were had, longer periods of time were devoted to the continuing seminars, and separate time-periods were arranged for the special questions of women's role in theology and the theology of peace.

The President expressed a special word of thanks to Dr. Joseph Burgess who on short notice filled in on the program when William Larzareth was unable to take part. The President also thanked the local arrangements committee, made up of Joan Timmerman, James Moudry, Joseph Hallman, and Kieran Nolan, for the pre-convention publicity and the special reception sponsored by the local colleges of St. Catherine and St. Thomas and the two seminaries, St. Paul's and St. John's in Collegeville. Finally, the President thanked Patrick Collins and his assistants for preparing the special convention liturgy in connection with the special session on peace.

Relationships with Other Societies

Next, the President reported on the relationship of the CTSA with other groups during the past year.

— *Joint Committee of Catholic Learned Societies and Scholars.* Donald Buggert, the CTSA representative to the JCCLSS, reported to the President that this committee has evaluated its past meetings and has begun some re-organization in order to find new ways of promoting meetings between bishops and scholars.

— *Society for the Propagation of the Faith.* Once again this year, the SPF sponsored a breakfast-discussion during the convention. They are also working on developing a proposal that may develop into a research project on the contribution of local theologies to the global Church. There will probably be a continuing seminar in next year's convention focussing on the theology of mission.

— *College Theology Society.* A representative of the CTS (Walter Conn) takes part in the CTSA Board meetings, and a representative of the CTSA takes part in the CTS Board meetings.

— *Catholic Biblical Association.* The President of the CBA, Bishop Richard Sklba, is attending this year's CTSA convention.

— *Canon Law Society of America.* The chairperson of the joint committee of the CTSA/CLSA will report shortly on the conclusion of this committee's work.

Research Teams

During the past year there have been two CTSA-sponsored research teams at work. The President-Elect had already reported on the research team studying the WCC Lima Statement. The President then called on Leo O'Donovan (the chairperson) to speak about the final report of the Joint Committee of the CTSA/CLSA.

O'Donovan described briefly the work of the joint committee over the past several years. An interim report consisting of position papers and a consensus statement had been published last year. The final report of the

committee, outlining suggested procedures for resolving doctrinal disputes between the ecclesiastical magisterium and theologians, was distributed to convention participants at registration time. An open discussion of the report was held the evening before the business meeting.

The final report of the joint committee was not only accepted by the CTSA Board of Directors, but also endorsed by the Board. Both the joint committee and the Board would like also to ask the CTSA members present at the convention to endorse the committee's report.

MOTION (O'Donovan, seconded by O'Connell): that *Doctrinal Responsibilities*, the final report of the Joint CLSA-CTSA Committee, be endorsed as a working document to be recommended to the National Conference of Catholic Bishops for promoting cooperation and resolving disputes between bishops and theologians.

After some brief discussion, the motion was passed unanimously by a voice-vote.

Statement Proposed by the Board about the Case of Agnes Mary Mansour.

The President presented a statement about the case of Agnes Mary Mansour. This statement was proposed by the Board for the approval of the CTSA members present at the convention. If approved, it would be sent to the Sacred Congregation for Religious, the Apostolic Signatura, the Ordinary involved, and Mansour's Religious Superiors. The proposed statement read as follows:

The actions of the Holy See which have led to the compulsory resignation of Sister Agnes Mary Mansour from the Sisters of Mercy have theological dimensions which are of profound concern to the Catholic Theological Society of America.

The manner in which Sister Mansour was compelled to accept, with limited freedom, a dispensation from her vows violates basic principles of due process and disregards a sound theology of the Church.

Theological views differ about the proper way to relate Christian moral values to public policies in a pluralist society. They also differ about the proper role of religious in public life. Such disagreement should be dealt with through dialogue and theological discussion. Actions which seek to settle these differences by the administrative decision of Church officials violate both the theological meaning of authority in the Church and the sacredness of the consciences of Church members.

Therefore we strongly support speedy reconsideration of this regrettable decision.

In the course of the discussion of this statement, both pro and con, a two-part amendment was moved by Joseph Komonchak:

- 1) that the word "compulsory" be omitted in the first paragraph;
- 2) that the entire second paragraph be omitted.

Discussion and voting on the amendment proceeded *per partes*.

1) the first part of the suggested amendment, that the word "compulsory" be omitted in the first paragraph passed on a voice-vote.

2) before the second part of the suggested amendment, that the entire second paragraph be omitted, could be voted on, an amendment to the amendment was moved by Robert Imbelli: that the words "was compelled" be changed to "came."

Before this amendment to the amendment could be voted on, a motion was made by Mary Ann Donovan to recommit the original, proposed statement to the Board so that in a discussion session in the evening the Board might re-work the statement for consideration by the members in a special business meeting the next morning. This motion to recommit passed on a voice-vote. Timothy O'Connell then made the motion that a special business meeting be held on Saturday morning to consider the statement on the Mansour case. This motion also passed on a voice-vote. The Board's proposed statement on the Mansour case would be re-worked and considered tomorrow.

New Business

Patout Burns proposed the following motion: that the decision that restricts CTSA conventions because of geographical location (a decision made by the members at the San Francisco convention in relation to the ERA) be repealed.

Rather quickly in the discussion the motion was made by Francis Fiorenza to commit this proposal to the Board of Directors. This motion to commit the proposal to the Board passed on a show of hands.

At this point, a motion to adjourn was made and passed on a voice-vote. The business meeting stood adjourned until the special meeting scheduled for Saturday morning.

Special Business Meeting

The President opened the special business meeting at 9:00 A.M. on Saturday, June 18. A motion was made and passed by voice-vote that Archbishop John Roach be made an Honorary Member of the CTSA.

The revised statement of the Board on the Mansour case was presented to the members gathered for the business meeting. In its revised form the statement read:

The actions of the Holy See which have led to the resignation of Agnes Mary Mansour from the Sisters of Mercy have theological dimensions which are of profound concern to the Catholic Theological Society of America.

The circumstances under which Agnes Mary Mansour was led to request a dispensation from her vows violate basic principles of due process.

Theological views differ about the proper way to relate Christian moral values to public policies in a pluralist society. They also differ about the proper role of religious in public life. Such disagreements should be dealt with through dialogue and theological discussion. Actions which seek to settle these differences simply by the administrative decision of Church officials violate both the theological meaning of authority in the Church and the sacredness of the consciences of Church members.

We strongly support speedy reconsideration of this case by the Holy See.

Joanne Dewart moved that the discussion of the proposed statement be limited to fifteen minutes. This motion passed on a voice-vote.

Near the end of the discussion Vernon Gregson proposed a four-part amendment that was voted on *per partes*. 1) That in paragraph two the word "circumstances" be changed to "procedures of public record." This passed on a show of hands. 2) That in paragraph two the words "violate basic principles" be changed to "raise serious questions." This passed on a show of hands. 3) That paragraph three be omitted. This failed to pass on a show of hands. 4) That the final paragraph be changed to read: "We strongly support serious dialogue about the underlying issues raised by this case. This passed on a show of hands.

The question was then called on the Board's statement as amended. The statement was approved on a show of hands. The statement in its final, approved form now reads:

The actions of the Holy See which have led to the resignation of Agnes Mary Mansour from the Sisters of Mercy have theological dimensions which are of profound concern to the Catholic Theological Society of America.

The procedures of public record under which Agnes Mary Mansour was led to request a dispensation from her vows raise serious questions of due process.

Theological views differ about the proper way to relate Christian moral values to public policies in a pluralist society. They also differ about the proper role of religious in public life. Such disagreements should be dealt with through dialogue and theological discussion. Actions which seek to settle these differences simply by the administrative decision of Church officials violate both the theological meaning of authority in the Church and the sacredness of the consciences of Church members.

We strongly support serious dialogue about the underlying issues raised by this case.

Finally, this special business meeting of the 1983 convention of the CTSA was adjourned.

EDWARD H. KONERMAN, *Secretary*
St. Mary of the Lake Seminary
Mundelein, IL 60060