

## CTSA FIRSTS

### 1946

- Resolution to found** Meeting in New York at the invitation of Archbishop Francis Spellman, St. Paul's Parish House, 27 January 1946. Rev. Eugene M. Burke, C.S.P., moved: "That it is the sense of this meeting that there be formed a Catholic theological association for America." Father Bluett seconded the motion, which was then passed without objection by 38 priests present.
- First meeting** Hotel Commodore, New York City, 25-26 June 1946
- Charter members** 104, of whom seven reside in Canada, two in Rome
- Dues** Active members: \$5.00 per year  
Associate members: \$3.00 per year
- President** Dr. Francis J. Connell, C.S.S.R.  
**Vice president** Dr. Gerard Yell, S.S.  
**Secretary** Dr. Joseph Clifford Fenton  
**Treasurer** Dr. James Edward Rea
- Board of directors** Dr. Joseph M. Quigley  
Dr. John Courtney Murray, S.J.  
Dr. William R. O'Connor  
Dr. David Baier, O.F.M.  
Dr. Thomas Owen Martin  
Dr. Richard T. Doherty
- First papers** "The Wisdom of Theology," Dr. William R. O'Connor, St. Joseph's Seminary, Dunwoodie, New York  
"The Catholic Doctrine of the Ends of Marriage," Dr. Francis J. Connell, C.S.S.R., Catholic University of America

"The Theological Significance of the Encyclical *Mystici Corporis*," Dr. J. Joseph Bluett, S.J., Woodstock College

- Issues to be discussed**
1. An Authoritative Church in a Democracy
  2. Moral Problems of Total War
  3. Is the Right to Strike Absolute?
  4. Catholic Action in the United States
  5. Natural Motives and the Supernatural Life
  6. The Principles of Extra-Sacramental Justification
- First Corporate Act** Mass of the Holy Ghost, Lady Chapel of St. Patrick's Cathedral, the Most Rev. William Tiburtus McCarty, C.S.S.R., offered the Mass. Francis Cardinal Spellman presided, and, after the Mass, welcomed the members individually.
- First public utterance** Petition to the Holy Father That the Doctrine of Our Lady's Assumption into Heaven Be Defined as a Dogma of Divine Faith

#### 1947

- First member to die** Hugh William Radigan, O.F.M.
- Honorary life member** Most Rev. John J. Wright, auxiliary bishop of Boston (later bishop of Worcester, Massachusetts, bishop of Pittsburgh, and cardinal prefect of the Congregation of Clergy)
- New members** 49 applicants for active membership three for associate membership  
(Two applicants were rejected, one a woman, one a seminarian. Their names are unknown.)

#### 1951

- Gift to the pope** A set of *Proceedings* was sent to Pope Pius XII. It was bound in white leather and stamped in gold with the papal coat of arms.

1953

**Noncleric member** Brother Luke Salm, C.S.C.

1962

**Protestants at convention** Guests of Bishop Wright of Pittsburgh, host bishop

**Protestant speaker** Jaroslav Pelikan:  
"The Protestant Concept of the Church"

1963

**European speaker** Bernard Haring, C.S.S.R.

**Dues hike** Raised from \$5.00 to \$6.00

**Formal resolution** Resolved: The officers and members of the Catholic Theological Society of America assembled in convention in St. Louis, Missouri, hereby go on record as approving President Kennedy's declaration that segregation is a moral issue and not solely cultural, social, and economic, and as urging all men of good mind and good will to cooperate in every way possible to resolve the present situation.

1964

**Protestant guests of CTSA** Cyril Richardson, dean, Union Theological Seminary  
Roger Shin, Union Theological Seminary  
Paul Minear, Yale Divinity School  
John Krumen, chaplain, Columbia University

**Jewish speaker** Rabbi Abraham Heschel, discussion leader

**Orthodox speaker** Rev. John Meyendorff, discussion leader

**Membership change** Membership no longer restricted to priests and brothers. Now open to all professionally competent in Sacred Theology.

1965

- Women members** Miss Elizabeth Jane Farians  
Miss Cathleen M. Going
- Laymen members** Mr. Hamilton Hess  
Dr. Petro B. T. Bilaniuk  
Mr. Alfred F. Corbo
- Ecumenical exchange during convention** Arranged by Rev. Francis Gaydos, C.M. Presenters were Dr. Robert McAfee Brown of Stanford University and Father Daniel O'Hanlon, S.J., of Alma College. Held in the ballroom of the Brown Palace Hotel, Denver, it attracted more than 1,000 people.

1966

- Interfaith exchange during convention** Rabbi Marc H. Tannenbaum, the American Jewish Committee, "A Jewish Reaction to Catholic Positions in Vatican II," and Rev. Edward H. Flannery, editor of the *Providence Visitor*, "The Church, the Synagogue, and the Ecumenical Movement"
- Woman denied admission to convention reception and banquet** Mary Daly (see Ann E. Patrick's presidential address, *CTSA Proceedings* 45 [1990] 45; Patrick notes [45n.5] that "Daly's account of the 1966 incident is found in the second edition of *The Church and the Second Sex* [New York: Harper & Row, 1975] 141-42")
- Woman admitted to banquet** Elizabeth Farians (letter of Charles Curran to Robert Wister, 14 October 1992)

1968

- Spellman award to layman** Dr. Martin R. P. McGuire
- Woman on committee** Sr. Agnes Cunningham, S.S.C.M., and Sr. Jane Stier, O.S.U., committee on admissions
- Protestant member** Dr. Arthur C. Cochrane (see Luke Salm's presidential address in *CTSA Proceedings* 30 [1975] 247)

1969

- Woman on board of directors** Sr. Agnes Cunningham, S.S.C.M.
- Woman to address convention** Sr. Agnes Cunningham, S.S.C.M.: "The Role of Woman in Church and Society"
- Bishop to deliver convention paper** Most Rev. John R. Quinn, auxiliary bishop of San Diego (later bishop of Oklahoma City-Tulsa; archbishop of Oklahoma City; archbishop of San Francisco)

1970

- Woman secretary** Sr. Agnes Cunningham, S.S.C.M.
- Brother on board of directors** Br. Luke Salm, F.S.C.

1972

- New award for theological achievement** Board of directors resolution adopted at the 1972 meeting: "Reminding the Society that in the past few years we have made concerted efforts to emphasize the peculiar American contribution to theology, the board voted unanimously for the establishment of the John Courtney Murray Award for distinguished achievement in theology. This title will in the future designate what was previously the Cardinal Spellman Award. The change of name implies no lack of recognition or gratitude on the part of the Society for the support and encouragement which it received from Cardinal Spellman. It aims, rather, at bringing the award closer in name to the ideals which the cardinal sought to foster and which he honored and recognized in John Courtney Murray. For Father Murray, as a North American theologian and loyal churchman, represented in his work things for which this Society stands, particularly in the contribution he made to the universal Church in the Second Vatican Council."

- J. C. Murray Award** Charles Curran

No "nihil obstat" *Proceedings* without "with ecclesiastical permission"

1974

**Nonordained president** Bro. Luke Salm, F.S.C.

1975

**Layman on board  
of directors** Francis Schüssler Fiorenza

1976

**Woman vice president** Sr. Agnes Cunningham, S.S.C.M.

1977

**Woman president** Sr. Agnes Cunningham, S.S.C.M.

1984

**Woman recipient  
of Murray Award** Monika K. Hellwig

1985

**Layman president** Francis Schüssler Fiorenza

1988

**Bishop recipient  
of Murray Award** Most Rev. Richard J. Sklba,  
auxiliary bishop of Milwaukee

Compiled by ROBERT J. WISTER

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