Committee on Research and Publications

Report of Chairman

The committee respectfully submits to the Society two projects for consideration and action. Both these projects have been studied by the Committee and approved.

The first is a Dictionary of Apologetics planned by Dr. Joseph C. Fenton of the Catholic University. The committee stands prepared to furnish assistance in allocating articles etc. according to the program to be outlined by Dr. Fenton. Dr. Fenton will report at the next meeting.

The second project is a guide to the literature of theology. The purpose of this guide will be to list various reference books and sources in theology and to evaluate them much in the same way as is done in Mudge "Guide to Reference Books," but with annotations more intense and emphasizing a greater emphasis on subject matter.

The reason for suggesting this as a primary work of the Society is twofold. There is no such reference work in existence and its formation will be fundamental to further research.

The plan will be to issue it in sections each one dealing with a different Classification. The first will be Theological Dictionaries and Encyclopedias. As the listings are prepared they will be published in articles to provoke further suggestions.

Of each item it will be expected that a full critical evaluation will be given with reference to content, use, bibliography, etc.

This general plan of procedure has been presented to the Rev. John H. Harrington, Librarian of St. Joseph's Seminary, Dunwoodie. The committee desires further suggestions and will ask Father Harrington to incorporate them in or substitute them for the program here briefly outlined.

The part of the Society is important. It is doubtful whether such a project can be completed without the cooperation of a Society such as this.

The work of the members will be to furnish items, to send in criticisms of articles that appear, to add to suggested lists and finally to furnish the desired full critical evaluation of titles submitted when requested to do so.

Rt. Rev. Msgr. John A. Fearns, Chairman.