

THE HARTFORD MEETING

THE REPORT OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY ON THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE CATHOLIC BIBLICAL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

A general meeting of the Catholic Biblical Association of America was held at Hartford on October 1 and 2, 1938, under the patronage of His Excellency, the Most Reverend Maurice F. McAuliffe, D. D., Bishop of Hartford, and in conjunction with the Fourth National Catechetical Congress of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine.

Various sessions of the meeting were honored by the presence of Their Excellencies, the Most Reverend Edwin V. O'Hara, Bishop of Great Falls, and chairman of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine; the Most Reverend George L. Leech, D. D., J. C. D., Bishop of Harrisburg; and the Most Reverend Francis P. Carroll, D. D., Bishop of Calgary, Canada. Both Bishop O'Hara and Bishop Leech addressed kind words of encouragement and commendation to the Association, stressing the importance of biblical studies and of the splendid work in which the Association is engaged.

Previous to the first session on Saturday morning a Mass was celebrated for deceased members in St. Patrick's Church, Hartford. The celebrant was the Most Reverend Edwin V. O'Hara, and he was assisted by the Reverends Donat Poulet, O. M. I., and Edward H. Donze, S. M.

The deceased members of the Catholic Biblical Association:

Patrick Cardinal Hayes, Patron of the Association, died at New York, September 4, 1938.

Gregory G. Rybrook, Ord. Praem., died at West De Pere, Wis. on June 6, 1937, aged 62.

Romain Butin, S. M., died at Washington, D. C. on Dec. 8, 1937, aged 67.

Joseph H. Schumacher, died at Little Rock, Ark. on June 15, 1938, aged 32.

Francis A. Walsh, O. S. B., died at Washington, D. C. on Aug. 12, 1938, aged 54.

This year the Association was pleased to note among those attending the sessions several scriptural scholars from Canada. The members present at the meeting included the following:

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| Arbez, Edward, S. S. Washington, D. C. | Cerny, Edward, S. S. Baltimore, Md. | Costello, Chas., O. M. I. Washington, D. C. |
| Byrne, Edward, Rochester, N. Y. | Coleran, James, S. J. Weston, Mass. | Cotter, Anthony, S. J. Weston, Mass. |
| Callan, Charles, O. P. Hawthorne, N. Y. | Collins, John, S. J. Weston, Mass. | DeVine, C. R., C. SS. R. Woodstock, Ontario. |

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| Donzé, Edward, S. M. Washington, D. C. | McClellan, W. H., S. J. Woodstock, Md. | Poulet, Donat, O. M. I. Ottawa, Canada. |
| Dougherty, John J. Darlington, N. J. | McGlinchey, J., C. M. Philadelphia, Pa. | Reilly, W. S., S. S. Baltimore, Md. |
| Garant, C. O. Quebec, Canada. | McGlynn, H., C. S. Sp. Ferndale, Conn. | Rowan, John Philadelphia, Pa. |
| Gaul, Cyril, O. S. B. St. Meinrad, Ind. | McHugh, J. A., O. P. Hawthorne, N. Y. | Skehan, Patrick W. Washington, D. C. |
| Gruenthaner, M., S. J. St. Marys, Kans. | Mangan, E., C. SS. R. Oconomowoc, Wis. | Smith, K., O. M. Cap. Marathon, Wis. |
| Hanley, John, Trenton, Ontario. | Murray, John J., Jamaica Plain, Mass. | Stapleton, Matthew Brighton, Mass. |
| Heupler, C., O. M. Cap. Washington, D. C. | Newton, William Washington, D. C. | Steinmueller, J. E. Huntington, N. Y. |
| Kennedy, M., O. F. M. Washington, D. C. | Pelletier, George L. Quebec, Canada. | Sullivan, Thomas C. Union City, N. J. |
| LeBuffe, F. P., S. J. New York, N. Y. | Pickar, C. H., O. S. A. Washington, D. C. | Temple, Patrick J. New York City. |
| LeHoullier, A., O. M. I. So. Natick, Mass. | Plassmann, T., O. F. M. St. Bonaventure, N. Y. | Yungfleisch, S., C. P. Baltimore, Md. |

The papers read on Saturday at the sessions held in the Moorish Room of the Bond Hotel were as follows:

10:00 A. M.

"The Eschatological Discourse," Rev. Anthony C. Cotter, S. J.,
Weston, Mass.

"The Essence of the Mass and Scripture," Very Rev. John A.
McHugh, O. P., S. T. M., Litt. D., Hawthorne, N. Y.

"One Crowd of Women Went to Grace," Rev. Edward A. Mangan,
C. SS. R., S. S. L., Oconomowoc, Wisconsin.

2:00 P. M.

"The Consequent Sense," Rev. Charles R. DeVine, C. SS. R.,
S. S. L., Woodstock, Ontario.

"The Seventy Weeks of Daniel," Rev. Michael J. Gruenthaner,
S. J., S. T. D., S. S. D., St. Mary's, Kansas.

"The Relation of the Scripture Professor to Discussion Clubs,"
Discussion Leader, Rev. John F. Rowan, S. T. D., S. S. L.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

At four-thirty o'clock on Saturday the Reverend Gregory Smith, chairman of the Discussion Clubs at the National Center of the Confraternity, gave an interesting demonstration of the methods employed in conducting a Discussion Club. He used as the text one of the pamphlets published by the Confraternity on the Life of Christ, and distributed copies among the members present. Father Smith stated that many biblical brochures yet remain to be written for the use of the Clubs.

As a social feature of their meeting the members met for dinner, which was served in the Moorish Room, at which the guest of honor was the Most Reverend George L. Leech, D. D., J. C. D., Bishop of Harrisburg.

The business meeting of the Association was held at eight o'clock on Saturday evening. The report of the treasurer showed that there was a cash balance of \$1,857.96 on hand. Father Steinmueller, who had been delegated to investigate the question of the incorporation of the Association, reported that while we could be included in the episcopal charter of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, it was deemed advisable to have a separate charter, and that this should be applied for either in Maryland or in the District of Columbia. Father Steinmueller was instructed to make further inquiries.

The next question was the publication of a Biblical Quarterly, the first issue to appear in January, 1939. After some discussion, during which Fathers Callan, Gaul, Stapleton, Steinmueller, Donze, Rowan, Mangan, Newton, McClellan, Pickar, Plassmann, and Reilly expressed their opinions, the opportuneness of publishing the Quarterly was put to a vote. It was decided in favor of the project by a vote of twenty-six to five. The motion was then made that regarding the character of the Quarterly the program adopted by the Executive Board be accepted with modifications. This motion was carried unanimously.

Then followed reports of the various Committees. Father Donze, the chairman of the Committee on Membership, gave the qualifications necessary for active members, and for associate members, all of which had been decided at the April meeting of the executive board in Washington. Life members are already determined in the Constitution.

Father Newton presented a report of the Commission to England. He stated that those whom he had approached in England were quite enthusiastic about the Association, and signified their intention of becoming members. Some suggested affiliated organizations in England and Ireland. It was decided, however, to await the further development of the Association.

Father Steinmueller, the chairman of the Committee on the Enlargement of Resources, proposed the question whether those who had paid their dues for the current year should receive the Quarterly without a further assessment. The motion was proposed and carried that active members pay their regular dues of five dollars for 1939.

The final business of the evening was the report of the Committee on Nominations. The following were proposed and unanimously elected: President, the Very Rev. John A. McHugh, O. P., professor of theology at Maryknoll Seminary, Maryknoll, N. Y.; vice president, the Rev. Donat Poulet, O. M. I., of the University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Can.; general secretary, the Rev. Edward Donze, S. M., of Washing-

ton, D. C.; recording secretary, the Rev. Mark Kennedy, O. F. M., of Washington, D. C.; treasurer, the Rev. John Steinmueller, Huntington, N. Y.; editor of publications, the Rev. Cyril Gaul, O. S. B., of St. Meinrad Seminary, Indiana; editorial board for the Quarterly, the Rev. Wendell S. Reilly, S. S., St. Mary's Seminary, Baltimore, Md.; the Rev. Wm. H. McClellan, S. J., Woodstock, Md.; the Rev. Edward H. Donze, S. M., Washington, D. C.; the Rev. Chas. H. Pickar, O. S. A., Washington; the Rev. John F. Rowan, St. Charles Seminary, Overbrook, Pa.

On Sunday morning there was a meeting of the Editorial Board for the revision of the New Testament, and of the revisors who were present in Hartford. Bishop O'Hara presided. Father Newton told of the gracious reception he was accorded by biblical men in Rome, who read our Constitution and gave it their full approval. In asking for advice on our project of revising the Old Testament he was given every encouragement, cooperation, and assistance by Roman ecclesiastics prominent in the biblical field.

At ten-thirty o'clock a Solemn Pontifical Mass was celebrated in St. Joseph's Cathedral by the Bishop of Hartford, at which the Most Reverend John Gregory Murray, D. D., Archbishop of St. Paul, preached the sermon. The members of the Biblical Association were among those present at the Mass.

The final session of the meeting of the Association was held on Sunday afternoon. After the scheduled papers had been read by Father Wm. McClellan on "The Newly Proposed Translation of Genesis, 2:5-6," and by Father Edward Byrne on "The Study of Scripture in the Seminary," the retiring president, Father Newton, disposed of some business items which remained from the previous evening. As secretary of the Editorial Board, he gave a report on the work of the revision of the English New Testament. Father Newton stated that he was happy to announce that the revision was practically completed, and should be published within approximately a year. There was then a report and a discussion of the tentative principles for the revision of the Old Testament. Father Newton conveyed to the members of the Association the congratulatory words that had been expressed in Rome, where he visited last summer, on the work accomplished by the Association, notably the revision of the New Testament; and the hope that the revision of the Old Testament would soon be undertaken. Suggestions made in Rome regarding the principles to be adopted for the revision of the Old Testament, which will facilitate the work, were discussed at length.

It was suggested that, for the information of the new members of the Association, the Secretary list in his report the Editorial Board on the Revision of the Douay New Testament. This same group is also making preparations for the revision of the Old Testament.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Rev. Edward Arbez, S.S., M.A., S.T.D.

Chief Editor, Text

Very Rev. Thomas Plassmann, O.F.M., Ph.D., S.T.D., Litt.D.

General Consultant

Rev. Charles Callan, O.P., S.T.M., Litt.D.

English

Reverend John McHugh, O.P., S.T.M., Litt.D.

Indices

Rev. Edward Donze, S.M., S.T.D., S.S.L.

Headings, Captions, etc.

Rev. John Steinmueller, S.T.D., S.S.L.

Introductions

Rev. Wendell Reilly, S.S., S.T.D., S.S.D.

Notes and Commentary

Rev. Charles Pickar, O.S.A., S.T.L., S.S.L.

Archivist

Rev. William Newton, M.A., S.S.D.

General Secretary

Father Newton concluded the proceedings of the afternoon with a scholarly and masterful address, which he delivered as the retiring head of the organization. He took as his theme: "Nil actum si quid agendum," words which the Holy Father had used as the basis for a talk to scriptural scholars. In his address, which will be found elsewhere in the Quarterly, Father Newton urged the members of the Association to continue their enthusiastic support of biblical researches and studies which in a vast degree still remain to be done in the United States.

The meeting adjourned with everyone present expressing full satisfaction at the happy and scientific manner in which it had been conducted. Resolutions of gratitude had been passed for the painstaking efforts of those in charge of the meeting, and of those who so unselfishly have directed the destinies of our infant Association.

That this account of the proceedings of the Third General Meeting of the Catholic Biblical Association will be an incentive for the members who were unable to be present this year to make the effort to be with us at the coming general session in Cincinnati is the fervent wish of the retiring recording secretary.

REVEREND JOHN F. ROWAN.