

**REPORT OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH GENERAL MEETING
OF THE CATHOLIC BIBLICAL ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICA**

The Twenty-Seventh General Meeting of the Catholic Biblical Association of America was held under the patronage of His Excellency, Most Reverend Bryan J. McEntegart, Bishop of Brooklyn, on September 1-3, 1964. The opening session took place in the Vatican Pavilion of New York's World Fair where the Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit was celebrated by the Most Reverend Charles R. Mulrooney, Auxiliary to the Bishop. The meetings of the next two days were at Bishop Molloy Retreat House, Jamaica, New York, through the generous hospitality of the Passionist community.

Tuesday Sessions—September 1

The presidential address of John L. McKenzie, S.J., which is published in this issue, concerned itself with power and authority in the NT. He challenged exegesis to focus more attention on the unique nature of the Spirit's power within a community of love and on a charismatic authority conceived as *service* to both.

The opening paper, *Recent Discussions on Biblical Theology*, was given by an honored guest, Roland de Vaux, O.P., of the École Biblique, Jerusalem. Surveying recent work in OT theology, he stressed the unique faith-interpretation of historical events which characterizes the biblical narrative. A theology of the OT must widen into a theology of both Testaments taken together and unified by the search for an adequate faith-analysis of God's action in history.

In the second paper, *On Ezechiel and John*, published in this issue, Bruce Vawter, C.M., considered the influence of Ezechiel on the themes of "Son of Man" and "Paraclete" in John. No papers were scheduled for the afternoon and evening of that first day.

Wednesday Sessions—September 2

The Requiem Mass for deceased members of the Association was offered by the Most Reverend John F. Whealon at 9:00 A.M. The first paper of the morning was presented by Martin Hopkins, O.P., and discussed *The Historical Perspective of Apocalypse 1-11*. His thesis was that Ap 1-11 treated exclusively of the divine judgment on Israel and that the treatment of Rome was found only in Ap 12-19; the former's past fulfillment assured the latter's future accomplishment. Peter Ellis, C.S.S.R., analyzed various series of *Foreshadowing Texts in Genesis* (those dealt with the rise of Israel, the Exodus, the conquest of Edom, and the Davidic dynasty). This usage was a common literary device in extrabiblical literature but its use by the Yahwist served also a theological func-

tion. The morning was concluded by Joseph Zalotay's paper on *The Interdependence of Biblical and Speculative Theology in Some Recent German Catholic Studies*. The work of H. Schlier and K. Rahner was used as a basis. The author's contention was that the NT combination of revelation and speculation guaranteed by inspiration (e.g. the inspired theology of Jn) finds its analogous continuation in the balance of biblical and speculative theology guaranteed throughout history by the infallibility of the Church. This polarity must always exist but its tension need not and should not become strife.

The afternoon began with André Legault's paper on the text of 1 Cor 4,6, *Beyond What Is Written*. The author argued that none of the modern attempts to retain and explain these words was convincing. Despite, then, the lack of textual proof, one should consider the phrase a marginal gloss which crept eventually into the text and thereby rendered it nonsensical. *Textual Observations on P⁷⁵ Catholic Epistles* was the title of the paper delivered by Jerome Quinn. He summed up research to date on this third-century papyrus and explained the document as having been intended for private catechetical instruction of new converts rather than liturgical reading. His paper concluded with some suggested revisions in the text of 1 Pt in the light of this papyrus. Addison Wright, S.S., discussed *The Primary Characteristics of Midrash* and maintained that the term has been used much too widely in recent writings. A study of the characteristics of rabbinic midrash seems to indicate a much narrower definition for the term; it is essentially a composition which exists as commentary on some biblical text or texts. Didactic fiction or narrative with OT allusions should not be termed midrash but possibly haggadah or mashal. Robert North, S.J., considered the *Proof Texts for the Creation of the Soul*, for example, Eccl 12,7; Gn 2,7, etc. The biblical terms (*n^ešāmā, nepeš, rūah*) are often translated as "soul" but actually mean (1) the whole individual rather than any non-material part, and (2) the life that man has in common with the animals. No truly exegetical conclusion can be drawn regarding either the nature or the origin of the vital principle in man as distinct from the lower animals from such texts. In the final paper of the afternoon, *Tutorial Method of Teaching Scripture*, Joseph A. Grispino, S.M., explained the advantages with regard to communication of knowledge, development of enthusiasm, and growth in personal study which accrue from the tutorial system as applied to smaller classes of seminarians.

In the evening, Roland de Vaux, O.P., spoke on the *Latest Archeological Discoveries and the Old Testament*. The lecture was accompanied by slides which included some unpublished materials from very recent Palestinian excavations.

Thursday Sessions—September 3

The morning began with the business meeting. The treasurer, Joseph E. Fallon, O.P., gave the annual report, and Msgr. John E. Steinmueller, chairman of the Board, read the financial statement of the Board of Trustees.

The report of the Executive Secretary, Louis F. Hartman, C.S.S.R., began

with the announcement of three grants of \$500 each: to Bernardin Schneider, O.F.M., for the Japanese translation of the Bible; to Alexander Di Lella, O.F.M., for the publication of his thesis on the text of Ben Sirach; and to Joseph A. Fitzmyer, S.J., for publication of his work on the Genesis Apocryphon. Both New Orleans (Notre Dame Seminary) and the University of Notre Dame were mentioned as possible locations for the 1965 meeting but the decision was deferred until later. The CBA of England sent greetings to the meeting through Sebastian Bullough, O.P., at present in this country but unable to attend in person.

Roland E. Murphy, O.Carm., reported on the *CBQ*. He explained the policy on transliteration of Greek and Hebrew citations; asked that biblical news be sent in by those concerned; and announced that Leopold Sabourin, S.J., will continue the "Report from Palestine" for *CBQ* in future issues.

Mother Kathryn Sullivan, R.S.C.J., reported for the Audio-Visual Aids department. The first series of tapes/records was very well received and further series are presently projected.

Stephen Hartdegen, O.F.M., reported for OT Translation. The thirteen biblical books of Vol. II stand presently as follows: six in print, two ready for printing, one almost ready, four ready for editing. The Board of Editors of the Old and New Testaments had collaborated closely with the Episcopal Committee on the Liturgy in the choice of the CCD translation for the future English texts of the liturgy.

Myles M. Bourke reported for the NT Translation. Although only eleven books are so far complete and of these only three already revised, all Scriptural readings are ready for the new Altar Missal to be used after the first Sunday of Advent, 1964.

Acting on the report of the Credentials Committee, read by Brendan McGrath, O.S.B., the members unanimously approved the following candidates: for *active* membership: Rev. William F. Barnett, Camden, New Jersey; Rev. Romuald J. Barry, C.M., Mosgiel, New Zealand; Rev. Julius P. Bellet, O.S.B., Cath. U., Wash.; Rev. Joseph Blenkinsopp, S.D.B., London, England; Rev. Aelred Cody, O.S.B., Rome, Italy; Rev. Hyacinte Dion, O.P., Ontario, Canada; Rev. Frederick Gast, O.C.D., Wash., D.C.; Rev. Thomas P. Halton, Cath. U., Wash.; Rev. Martin K. Hopkins, O.P., Winona, Minn.; Rev. Henry P. Koester, S.V.D., Techny, Ill.; Rev. Ben F. Meyer, S.J., Los Gatos, Cal.; Dr. James Muilenburg, San Anselmo, Cal.; Rev. James Plataras, C.M., Albany, N.Y.; Rev. John Quinlan, Cath. U., Wash.; Rev. George Saladna, Millsboro, Penna.; Rev. James L. Ronan, Vineland, N.J.; Rev. Leopold Sabourin, S.J., Jerusalem, Israel; Rev. C. Sant, Tarxien, Malta; Rev. William N. Schuit, Milwaukee, Wis.; Dr. Josep M. Solá-Solé, Cath. U., Wash.; Rev. James H. Swetnam, S.J., Rome, Italy; Rev. Mario Trecco, P.S.S.C., Staten Island, N.Y.

For *associate* membership: Rev. Seely J. Beggiani, Cleveland, Ohio; Rev. Francis J. Buckley, S.J., San Francisco, Cal.; Mr. Richard J. Clifford, S.J., Weston, Mass.; Bro. Constantine Clifton, X.B., Silver Spring, Md.; Rev. Raymond F. Collins, Warwick, R.I.; Sr. Patricia M. Coyle, S.N.J.M., Marylhurst, Oregon; Mr. Ewert H. Cousins, Bogota, N.J.; Rev. John F. Craghan, Munich,

Germany; Rev. Stephen C. Doyle, O.F.M., East Aurora, N.Y.; Mr. William W. Doyle, Cambridge, Mass.; Rev. David P. Efroymsen, Joliet, Ill.; Rev. John A. Fallon, O.P., Dover, Mass.; Mr. Frank K. Flinn, San Antonio, Texas; Rev. Daniel Geels, O.S.B., Subiaco, Arkansas; Rev. Paul M. Graycar, Pittsburg, Pa.; Sr. Maura Judge, C.S.J.; Orange, Cal.; Bro. Paul K. Hennessy, F.S.C.H., New Rochelle, N.Y.; Bro. Mark J. Hunt, F.S.C.H., New Rochelle, N.Y.; Dr. William D. Kelly, Quebec, Canada; Rev. Damien M. Kraus, O.S.B., Marvin, S. Dakota; Rev. Alvin P. Kutchera, Madison, Wis.; Mother Mary M. Loughran, S.H.C.J., Rosemont, Penna.; Rev. Mr. Donald L. Magnetti, S.J., Baltimore, Md.; Rev. John J. McCaffrey, Louvain, Belgium; Bro. Isidore McCarron, O.F.M., Brooklyn, N.Y.; Rev. Thomas A. Moore, O.P., Rome, Italy; Bro. Frederick J. Mulhern, Elkins Park, Penna.; Rev. John P. Murphy, S.J., Boston, Mass.; Rev. Elmer O'Brien, S.J., Quebec, Canada; Mr. Kevin G. O'Connell, S.J., Boston, Mass.; Rev. Francis J. Ostrowski, St. Paul, Minn.; Rev. Augustin T. Patrick, O.F.M. Conv., Chaska, Minn.; Sr. Maurita Postlewait, S.C.L., Xavier, Kansas; Sr. Marie S. Reges, O.P., Madison, Wis.; Sr. Margarita M. Reidy, C.H.M., Ottumwa, Iowa; Rev. Wolfgang Roth, Jabalpur, India; Rev. Thomas C. Schaub, O.P., Wash., D.C.; Rev. Raymond V. Schoder, S.J., Chicago, Ill.; Rev. Donald W. Trautman, Buffalo, N.Y.; Mr. James P. Walsh, S.J., Boston, Mass.; Rev. Emmet H. Weber, Green Bay, Wis.; Rev. Francis X. Weiser, S.J., Chestnut Hill, Mass.; Mother Mary C. Wheeler, R.S.C.J., Newton, Mass.

Dominic M. Crossan, O.S.M., moved that Roland de Vaux, O.P., and Pierre Benoit, O.P., of the École Biblique, Jerusalem be elected to honorary life membership in the Association. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. A similar motion was proposed by Frederick L. Moriarty, S.J., with regard to His Eminence, Bernard Cardinal Alfrink of Utrecht; this was likewise seconded and passed unanimously.

Speaking on behalf of the Resolutions Committee, Dominic M. Crossan, O.S.M., proposed three motions which were unanimously approved by the members: (1) to express to His Excellency, Most Reverend Bryan J. McEntegart, the thanks of the Association for his welcome and patronage; and to offer to His Excellency, Most Reverend Charles R. Mulrooney, the gratitude of the members for his speech of encouragement at the opening Mass; (2) to express to the entire Passionist community of Bishop Molloy Retreat House the members' sincere appreciation for their hospitality and generosity; (3) to express to the Sisters of St. Joseph of Brentwood, L.I., the Association's gratitude for the use of their academy and its facilities for part of the meeting.

The members then voted unanimously to elect the following candidates presented by Walter A. Peters on behalf of the Nominations Committee: *Pres.*, Barnabas M. Ahern, C.P.; *Vice-Pres.*, Frederick L. Moriarty, S.J.; *Exec. Sec.*, Louis F. Hartman, C.S.S.R.; *Treas.*, Joseph E. Fallon, O.P.; *Editor-in-chief CBQ*, Roland E. Murphy, O.Carm.; *Member of Executive Board (1964-66)*, John J. Collins, S.J.; *Members of Committee on Nominations*, Francis J. Schroeder, S.S.J. (1964-68), and Joseph Zalotay (1964-66), to complete the term

of David M. Stanley, S.J. (1962-66) who wished to withdraw from the Committee.

The chairman then asked for new business. Bruce Vawter, C.M., asked that a procedure be established for the proposal and election of honorary members. On the suggestions of Brendan McGrath, O.S.B., and Raymond E. Brown, S.S., the chairman proposed that a committee be appointed to draw up official procedure on the question. This was unanimously approved. The committee for cooperation with other learned societies reported that it was still trying to open such contacts but as yet with little success due mostly to accidental difficulties.

Thomas Barrosse, C.S.C., mentioned that Fr. Charles Balič, O.F.M., President of the International Marian Academy, had asked him to draw the Association's attention to the Fourth International Mariological Congress and the Eleventh International Marian Congress to be held in the Dominican Republic on the 18-22 and 23-25 March, 1965, respectively. The subject will be, "Mary in the New Testament." The members voted to have a committee investigate possible cooperation between the CBA and the Congress. This concluded the business meeting.

The morning's papers began with a study by Francis J. McCool, S.J., on *History and Theology in the Gospel: Mt 14, 22-23 par.* He compared the disciples' reaction to Jesus' walking on the water as recorded in Mk and Mt and showed how theological considerations had affected each account. Dr. James Barr spoke on the *Comparative Philological Approach to Textual Problems in the Old Testament—Some Problems of Method.* Three main problems are posed by the modern extensive use of the comparative philological method as over against that of textual criticism in deciphering difficult OT texts: (1) how many homonyms can be postulated before a language would have been unintelligible as *spoken*? (2) is the wide divergence in reliability given to the consonantal as against the punctuational tradition justified? (3) is it not necessary to explain in some detail the rise of obscurities in the text?

In the afternoon, James Swetnam, S.J., proffered *Some Observations on the Background of $\$DQ$ in Jeremia 23.5a.* Through an investigation of the use of the root $\$dq$ in West-Semitic texts, he argued that the word should be translated as "legitimate" rather than as "righteous" in the phrase in Jer 23,5a. *The Evolution of the Prophetic Use of HOI* was the title of the paper read by Richard Clifford, S.J. He proposed that the traditional translation of some of the early prophetic instances of *hoi* as, "woe to . . ." should be reexamined in the light of the *Sitz im Leben* of the term and the progressive hardening of prophetic attitudes. Edward Ciuba gave a *Critical Analysis of 1 Sm 8-15 as a Background for the Understanding of Saul's Kingship.* The so-called pro- and antimonarchical strata in these chapters are not mutually exclusive, but really complementary. Not kingship as such but kingship "like that of the other nations" is rejected as injurious to Yahweh's unique rights over Israel. The description in 1 Sm 8, 11-18 need not necessarily be Deuteronomic but may well be a contemporary picture of the semi-feudal Canaanite society as it existed at the time of Samuel. Various independent traditions about Saul were finally blended into one con-

tinuous account according to certain theological preoccupations. Martin Schoenberg, O.S.C., discussed *What is the Place of Verse 4 in Ps 109 (110)?* Literary indications argue for a late date for the psalm, possibly as late as the time of the Chronicler or Qoheleth. There are many cogent reasons for thinking that the verse is a later addition to the original psalm, but also some serious objections to this position. The final paper of the afternoon was that of Richard Caplice, S.J., on *Akkadian Apotropaic Incantations*. These rituals for warding off danger and evil fit into the general type of magical practices attacked by the OT. But the form of some of them show interesting similarities with the form of certain OT prayers themselves.

The concluding session of the meeting was a *Free Panel-Discussion on the Historicity of the Gospels* held in the evening. The panel consisted of Raymond E. Brown, S.S., (Charman); David M. Stanley, S.J.; Bruce Vawter, C.M.; and Joseph A. Fitzmyer, S.J.

The following active members of the CBA attended the meeting:

Ambrozic, Aloysius M.	Dicharry, Warren F., C.M.
Arce, Francis X., S.J.	Di Lella, Alexander, O.F.M.
Ballmann, Everett A.	Doyle, John J.
Barbieri, Amedeo L., P.I.M.E.	Dumm, Demetrius R., O.S.B.
Barrett, Robert P., S.M.A.	Ellis, Peter F., C.S.S.R.
Barrosse, Thomas, C.S.C.	Faley, Roland J., T.O.R.
Blenkinsopp, Joseph, S.D.B.	Fallon, Joseph E., O.P.
Boucher, Robert G., C.S.S.R.	Fitzmyer, Joseph A., S.J.
Bourke, Myles M.	Flanagan, Neal M., O.S.M.
Brennan, Joseph P.	Forestell, James T., C.S.B.
Brown, Raymond E., S.S.	Frank, Richard M.
Buckley, Thomas W.	Gervais, Marcel A.
Bulteau, M.-G., S.S.	Giblin, Charles H., S.J.
Bushinski, Leonard A., C.S.Sp.	Glimm, Francis X.
Cahill, P. Joseph, S.J.	Grassi, Joseph A., M.M.
Cantley, Michael J.	Grispino, Joseph A., S.M.
Caplice, Richard I., S.J.	Hartman, Louis F., C.S.S.R.
Casey, William Van Etten, S.J.	Henkey, Charles H.
Ceroke, Christian P., O.Carm.	Heupler, Charles G., O.F.M.Cap.
Ciuba, Edward J.	Hodous, Edward J., S.J.
Collins, Thomas A., O.P.	Hopkins, Martin K., O.P.
Cordano, Virgil G., O.F.M.	Huesman, John E., S.J.
Couture, Paul-Emile, S.S.E.	Hunt, Ignatius J., O.S.B.
Crane, Thomas E.	Joyce, Edward J., C.P.P.S.
Crossan, Dominic M., O.S.M.	Kearney, Peter J.
Crowley, Edward J., C.S.S.R.	King, Philip J.
Cummings, William F., C.S.S.R.	Kistner, Hilarion H., O.F.M.
Denissoff, Elias V.	Kugelman, Richard, C.P.
Denzer, George A.	Lachowski, Joseph M., C.M.
DeVault, Joseph J., S.J.	Lacomara, Aelred, C.P.

Lane, John Mary, S.N.J.M.
 Lazor, Bernard A., O.S.A.
 Lazur, Joseph E., C.P.P.S.
 Leahy, Thomas W., S.J.
 Leahy, William K.
 Legault, André, C.S.C.
 Lussier, Joseph E., S.S.S.
 Lynch, William E., C.M.
 Mahoney, John J., O.P.
 Mallon, Vincent P., M.M.
 Maly, Eugene H.
 Martin, Edward J., C.M.
 Martin, Francis, O.C.S.O.
 Masterman, Rose E., C.S.C.
 Mattingly, John F., S.S.
 McAlee, Eugene A., C.S.S.R.
 McCarthy, Dennis J., S.J.
 McCool, Francis J., S.J.
 McEleney, Neil J., C.S.P.
 McGough, Columban, O.C.D.
 McGrath, Brendan, O.S.B.
 McIver, M. Emmanuel, O.S.U.
 McKenzie, John L., S.J.
 Messemer, Edward J., S.J.
 Montague, George T., S.M.
 Moriarity, John J., S.S.C.
 Moriarty, Frederick L., S.J.
 Morin, Joseph C.-E., C.S.S.R.
 Mueller, Herman, S.V.D.
 Murphy, Richard T. A., O.P.
 Murphy, Roland E., O.Carm.
 Murray, John P., C.M.
 North, Robert, S.J.
 O'Doherty, Eamonn, S.S.C.
 Orlett, Raymond F.
 O'Rourke, John J.
 Oulette, Lucien, C.S.V.
 Pagano, Sebastiano, O.M.I.
 Panella, Donald A.

Peifer, Claude J., O.S.B.
 Peters, Walter H.
 Petru, Francis A., S.J.
 Pierce, Justin A., S.D.S.
 Poirier, Leandre, O.F.M.
 Polan, Stanley M., SS.CC.
 Quinn, Jerome D.
 Reese, James M., O.S.F.S.
 Rooney, Gerard J., C.P.
 Rossiter, Francis S.
 Rousseau, Richard, S.J.
 Rubsys, Anthony L.
 Schoenberg, Martin W., O.S.C.
 Schroeder, Francis J., S.S.J.
 Siebeneck, Robert T., C.P.P.S.
 Skehan, Patrick W.
 Solari, James K., O.S.B.
 Sorensen, Howard J., O.M.I.
 Stanley, David M., S.J.
 Stapleton, Matthew P.
 Steiner, Luke J., O.S.B.
 Steinmueller, John E.
 Strange, Marcian, O.S.B.
 Stuhlmüller, Carroll, C.P.
 Suelzer, Alexa, S.P.
 Sullivan, Kathryn, R.S.C.J.
 Swetnam, James H., S.J.
 Temple, Patrick J.
 Tkacik, Arnold J., O.S.B.
 Twomey, Richard L., S.J.
 Vaillancourt, Norman L.
 Vancik, Vladimir G.
 Vawter, Bruce, C.M.
 Vincent, Robert G.
 Weber, Thomas H.
 †Whealon, John F.
 Wright, Addison G., S.S.
 Zalotay, Joseph