

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

The Twenty-ninth General Meeting of the Catholic Biblical Association of America was held under the patronage of His Excellency, Most Reverend Philip M. Hannan, Archbishop of New Orleans, at Notre Dame Seminary, New Orleans, Louisiana from August 30 to September 1, 1966. Archbishop Hannan celebrated the opening Mass of the Holy Spirit in the seminary chapel, and welcomed the delegates to the Archdiocese.

**Sessions on Tuesday, August 30**

In the opening address, *Deuteronomy, Chapters 1-4*, an honored guest, Father Henri Cazelles, S.S., gave a detailed analysis of Deuteronomy, Chapters 1-4, showing the two sources of the chapters, one expressed in the singular and the other in the plural, and pointing out the Wisdom tradition of the final redaction of the chapters.

In the second paper, *Mark 4,10-13 and the Messianic Secret*, Father Aloysius Ambrozic maintained that in the thinking of St. Mark, parables are prophetic words, rather than instructions. They are decisions or decrees of Christ, they are events creating what they foretell. They have two effects: they are creative of the new community, and they harden those who reject them.

In the third paper, *The Literary Genre of the Book of Wisdom*, Father James M. Reese, O.S.F.S., maintained that the literary form of Wisdom is rather Hellenistic than Hebrew. The various subalternate forms of diatribe, problem literature and organized comparison combine into a general exhortation to seek true wisdom.

In the fourth paper, *Rabbinics and the New Testament*, Dr. Irvin M. Arkin declared that the verbal imagery of rabbinic literature, granted the impossibility of dating this literature exactly and of determining the direction of influence between rabbinic and Christian literature, must be seen as a didactic device for approaching a Jewish Christian community. For this community, both the Matthean and Lucan infancy gospels were destined.

In the evening session, a panel discussion was held on the Constitution on Divine Revelation, Chapters 1-3. The panelists were Fathers John J. O'Rourke, Bruce Vawter, C.M., and Thomas Aquinas Collins, O.P. The panelists concentrated their attention chiefly on the lost opportunities of the Council, which failed, for example, to indicate more recent theories on inspiration.

**Sessions on Wednesday, August 31**

The Requiem Mass for deceased members of the Association was offered by the Most Reverend John F. Whealon at 9:00 A.M.

In his presidential address, Father David M. Stanley, S.J., maintained that the most primitive form of apostolic preaching as recovered from the New Testament itself is found in the summaries of this preaching in Acts, rather than in 1 Cor 15,3-6, which is usually considered the earliest expression. Father Stanley argued that in 1 Cor 15 there is a definite development in soteriology over the preaching of Acts, which had not yet managed to cope with the redemptive character of the *death* of Jesus, attributing the forgiveness of sins rather to Christ's exaltation. The Acts discourses attribute the exaltation to the Father, whereas, in a polemic spirit, they attribute our Lord's death to the wickedness of men. Paul, later on, sees that even in Christ's death, God is at work, for it is God who handed him over for our sins.

In the second paper of the day, *The Literary Genre of the "Hymn to Oneself" in Babylonian Literature and in Isaiah II*, Father H. M. Dion, O.P., showed that a special hymnic style, by means of which a deity sings her own praise in the first person singular, current in the Near Eastern religious literature in Sumerian times, was transferred to Yahweh by Deutero-Isaiah, and finally to Wisdom by Proverbs 8 and Sirach 24. In order to be taken up into biblical writings, the "hymn to oneself" became thoroughly indigenized: not only was the pattern reserved for the one true God, but genuinely biblical motives of praise were used and the "I hymn" was given an essential bearing on man's salvation.

In the business meeting, Joseph E. Fallon, O.P., gave the treasurer's 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., announced a grant of \$500 to the Studium Biblicum of Tokyo to help support a Japanese student at L'École Biblique. A grant of \$500 was made available to Joseph Fitzmyer, S.J., to help in the publication of his collection of articles on Aramaic inscriptions, if needed. The place of next year's meeting is still indefinite, though it will probably be Montreal.

Bruce Vawter, C.M., in his report as Editor of the *CBQ*, appealed for more and better material from our own membership. He announced that the executive board has agreed to abolish the student subscription rate. The regular subscription rate will not be advanced at the present time. Father Alexander Di Lella, O.F.M., was thanked for assuming the task of book review editor, and Thomas Barrosse, C.S.C., for filling in temporarily.

It was pointed out, in answer to a question, that to print passages in Greek and Hebrew type would involve a change in printers and a prohibitive cost.

Mother Kathryn Sullivan, R.S.C.J., reported for the Audio-Visual Aids department. Father Louis Hartman, C.S.S.R., is advisor for the department, Father Di Grassi, M.M., is in charge of production, and Mother Kathryn is in charge of distribution. There are seventeen recordings available. These have been dis-

tributed in every one of the states of the union, the Virgin Islands, Guatemala, Chile, Peru, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Guam, Africa, England, Ireland, Scotland, Germany, Italy, Jerusalem, Jordan, Hong Kong, Japan, China, the Philippines. 936 complete sets of the tapes have been sold, and 537 complete sets of the records. Because of this excellent response, it has been possible to grant a reduction in price, and a refund to original purchasers. The department is now planning complete courses on tapes, and special seasonal offerings for Christmas and Easter.

Stephen Hartdegen, O.F.M., reported on the Confraternity translation of the OT. The remaining volume (number two) will be published in 1967. The work is far advanced, and this commitment will probably be met. Eleven chapters of the revision of Genesis by Noel Freedman are already completed.

Myles M. Bourke reported for the NT translation. The Pastoral Epistles, done by Prof. John Knox, and 1 & 2 Peter are completed. Only Luke, James, Jude, Hebrews and Apocalypse remain to be done. December, 1967, is promised for the completion of the work. The completed books have been given to a competent literary editor.

The following list of candidates for membership by the Committee on Credentials was read by Father Joseph Grispino, S.M., and approved unanimously:

For *active* membership: Rev. Edwin Cabey, S.V.D., Bay St. Louis, Miss.; Rev. James J. Cunningham, O.P., Dover, Mass.; Rev. Edward J. Dillon, Rochester, N.Y.; Rev. John J. Dreese, Columbus, Ohio; Dr. J. Massingberd Ford, South Bend, Ind.; Dr. David Noel Freedman, San Anselmo, Calif; Rev. Patrick Glavin, O.F.M.Cap., Garrison, New York; Rev. Nathan J. Kay, M.S.S.S.T., Silver Spring, Md.; Rev. John J. McCaffrey, Louvain, Belgium; Rev. James Megivern, C.M., Jamaica, N.Y.; Rev. Thomas A. Moore, O.P., Dubuque, Iowa; Rev. Jerome J. Murphy-O'Connor, O.P., Jerusalem, via Amman, Jordan; Rev. Henry R. Nienaltowski, O.F.M.Cap., Oak Ridge, Morris County, N.J.; Rev. Quentin Quesnell, S.J., St. Marys, Kans.; Rev. John F. Randall, Warwick Neck, R.I.; Professor John Strugnell, Cambridge, Mass.; Rev. Anacleto S. Yonick, O.F.M., St. Louis, Missouri.

For *associate* membership: Rev. Thomas J. Beary, Burlington, Vt.; Rev. Edw. L. Bode, Brunswick, Mo.; Brother Robert S. Campbell, F.S.C., Napa, Calif.; Sister Consuela Marie Duffy, S.B.S., New Orleans, La.; Frater Bonaventure F. Hayes, O.F.M., Washington, D.C.; Rev. Joris J. Heise, O.F.M., Washington, D.C.; Rev. Bro. Austin A. Hovan, T.O.R., Loreto, Pa.; Sister Mary Lucia Impastato, O.P., New Orleans, La.; Rev. Flavian R. Karris, O.F.M., Washington, D.C.; Rev. Conrad E. L'Heureux, C.S.P., Boston, Mass.; Rev. Robert P. Maloney, C.M., Germantown, Phila., Pa.; Rev. James A. Mohler, S.J., Cleveland, O.; Brother Gabriel Murphy, F.S.C., St. Mary's College, Calif.; Rev. S. Raphael O'Loughlin, C.S.B., St. Meinrad, Ind.; Brother Meric Pessagno, C.F.X., New Haven, Ct.; Rev. Benedict V. Scarfia, O.F.M., St. Bonaventure, New York; Sister Mary Ann Michele Shay, B.V.M., Dubuque, Iowa; Sister Jane Stier,

O.S.U., St. Martin, O.; Rev. Thomas M. Suriana, Rome; Rev. Eugene E. Wolfzorn, Covington, Ky.

Members then accepted unanimously the slate of candidates presented by Rev. Martin Schoenberg, O.S.C., Chairman of the Committee on Nominations. Those elected are: *Pres.*, Rev. Edward F. Siegman; *Vice-Pres.*, Rt. Rev. Msgr. John Oesterreicher; *Exec. Sec.*, Louis F. Hartman, C.S.S.R.; *Treas.*, Joseph E. Fallon, O.P.; *Editor of CBQ*, Rev. F. Bruce Vawter, C.M.; *Consultor of Executive Board*, '66-'68, Peter F. Ellis, C.S.S.R.; *Member of Committee on Nominations*, '66-'70, Stanley Polan, S.S.C.C.; *Member of Program Committee*, Edward Ciuba.

Brendan McGrath, O.S.B., presented the following resolutions: that thanks be extended to Archbishop Hannan, to the Administration and Faculty of Notre Dame Seminary, and especially to the Reverend John J. Moore, S.M.; that congratulations be extended to Rev. John J. Collins, S.J. and his colleagues of the staff of *New Testament Abstracts* on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of its publication; that a gift of \$100 be presented to Father Collins as a token of the Association's gratitude for the valuable service rendered to NT studies by *New Testament Abstracts*.

In his report for the Program Committee, Father Martin Schoenberg appealed for cooperation with the committee, especially on the part of younger members, in preparing papers for the next meeting.

Mother Kathryn Sullivan moved, and her proposal was seconded and approved, that the president appoint a committee to aid the Society of Catholic College Teachers of Sacred Doctrine in a syllabus for Scripture in the colleges.

Msgr. Patrick Skehan reported that the editors of the Jerome Commentary have been editing their material. OT will be issued in a separate volume, which is now complete for printing. The NT will probably be printed before another year has passed.

On Wednesday evening, a panel discussion was held on the Constitution on Divine Revelation, Chapters 4-6. The panelists were Fathers Eugene H. Maly, Myles M. Bourke and Jerome D. Quinn. The very positive approach taken by the panelists evoked much fruitful discussion.

#### Sessions on Thursday, September 1

In the first paper of the day, Rev. William G. Most held for the necessity of a bilateral interpretation of the Sinai Covenant, so that Sinai is seen as a commitment by Yahweh, undertaken as an expression and exercise of intense love; that the new covenant is a similarly bilateral commitment in which the obedience-to-death of Christ was the basic condition for acquiring a new people of God; that all the elements of this view of the new covenant are to be found (though not in synthesized form) in Paul, especially in Romans; and in the Epistle to the Hebrews. This paper was entitled, *Toward a Biblical Theology of Redemption in a Covenant Framework*.

In the next paper, *On Romans 8,23 and the "Expectation of Sonship,"* James Swetnam, S.J., taking *apekdechomenoi* to mean "infer, understand in a certain

way," a meaning which it has in certain 2d century writers, concludes: *apekdechethai* in Rom 8,23 could have *hyiothesian* as object in the sense of sonship already received, with *ten apolytrosin tou somatos hemon* as an appositional phrase explaining the precise way in which *hyiothesian* is understood: "And not only creation, but we ourselves, understanding (sc. from the first-fruits of the Spirit) sonship as the redemption of our body."

In the final paper of the program, *The Day of the Atonement and the Matthean Form of the Our Father*, Dr. Massingberd Ford presented the Matthean form of the Our Father against the background of the Day of Atonement, and showed parallels between the Sermon on the Mount and the liturgy of the Day of Atonement.

The following members of the CBA attended the meeting:

Ambrozic, Aloysius M.	Gervais, M. A.
Arce, Francis X., S.J.	Grindel, John, C.M.
Arkin, Dr. Irvin M.	Grispino, Joseph A., S.M.
Barrosse, Thomas, C.S.C.	Guyot, Gilmore H., C.M.
Beggiani, Seely	Hartman, Louis F., C.S.S.R.
Bourke, Rt. Rev. Myles M.	Hartdegen, Stephen J., O.F.M.
Bruns, J. Edgar	Hinnebusch, Paul G., O.P.
Bucher, Otto N., O.F.M. Cap.	Hunt, Ignatius J., O.S.B.
Bushinski, Leonard A., C.S.S.	Impastato, Sister Mary Lucia, O.P.
Cazelles, Henri	Irwin, William H.
Ciuba, Edward J.	Jensen, Joseph N., O.S.B.
Collins, Thomas Aquinas, O.P.	Joyce, Edward J., C.P.P.S.
Cordano, Virgil G., O.F.M.	Karris, Flavian, O.F.M.
Cousins, Ewert H.	Kugelman, Richard, C.P.
Craghan, John F., C.S.S.R.	Langholz, K., O.F.M.
Crane, Thomas E.	Leahy, Thomas W., S.J.
Cummings, Wm. F., C.S.S.R.	Leahy, William K.
Cunningham, James F., O.P.	Lynch, William E., C.M.
Dagher, Joseph A., B.S.	Mallon, Vincent P., M.M.
Davis, James J., O.P.	Maloney, Robert P., C.M.
DeVault, Joseph J., S.J.	Maly, Eugene H.
Dicharry, Warren F., C.M.	McCarthy, Dennis J., S.J.
DiLella, Alexander A., O.F.M.	McDonnell, John F., O.P.
Dillon, Edward J.	McEleney, Neil J., C.S.P.
Dion, Hyacinte M., O.P.	McGovern, John J., M.M.
Duffy, Sister Consuela Marie, S.B.S.	McGrath, Brendan H., O.S.B.
Ellis, Peter F., C.S.S.R.	Megivern, James, C.M.
Faley, Roland J., T.O.R.	Montalbano, French J., O.M.I.
Fallon, Joseph E., O.P.	Moore, John J., S.M.
Flanagan, Neal M., O.S.M.	Moore, Thomas A., O.P.
Ford, Dr. J. Massingberd	Moriarty, Frederick L., S.J.
Fournelle, Geron G., O.F.M.	Moriarity, John J., S.S.C.

- Morris, James V., C.M.  
Most, William G.  
Mulka, Arthur L.  
Murphy, Brother Gabriel, F.S.C.  
Murray, Sister Jane Marie, O.P.  
Musholt, Silas A., O.F.M.  
Myerscough, Sister Angelita  
North, Robert, S.J.  
Oesterreicher, Rt. Rev. John M.  
O'Rourke, John J.  
O'Rourke, William J., S.J.  
Panella, Donald A.  
Polan, Stanley M., SS.CC.  
Quinn, Jerome D.  
Reese, James M., O.S.F.S.  
Richard, Robert L., S.J.  
Rossiter, Rt. Rev. Francis S.  
Scarfia, Benedict, O.F.M.  
Schoenberg, Martin W., O.S.C.  
Schroeder, Francis J., S.S.J.  
Skelly, Sr. Mary Grace, O.P.  
Skehan, Rt. Rev. Patrick W.  
Smith, Simon E., S.J.  
Sklba, Richard J.  
Sorensen, Howard J., O.M.I.  
Stanley, David M., S.J.  
Steiner, Luke J., O.S.B.  
Steinmueller, Rt. Rev. John E.  
Sullivan, Mother M. Kathryn, R.S.C.J.  
Swetnam, James H., S.J.  
Turner, Wayne A.  
Vawter, F. Bruce, C.M.  
Vincent, Robert G., O.M.I.  
Watson, Theodore A., Jr.  
Wcela, Emil A.  
Whealon, Most Rev. John F.  
White, Sister Alphonsiane, N.D.S.  
Yonick, Anacleto S., O.F.M.

PAUL HINNEBUSCH, O.P.

*Recording Secretary*