

REPORT OF THE THIRTY-FIRST GENERAL MEETING OF THE CATHOLIC BIBLICAL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

The Thirty-first General Meeting of the Catholic Biblical Association of America was held at St. Louis University, St. Louis, Missouri, in conjunction with the university's sesquicentennial observance, on August 26-29, 1968. The Rev. Louis F. Hartman, C.S.S.R., executive secretary, called the meeting to order. He introduced the Rev. Jerome Marchetti, S.J., executive vice-president of the university, who welcomed the members. Msgr. Myles M. Bourke delivered the presidential address entitled, *Some Reflections on Church Order in the NT Particularly in Connection with Hans Küng's Work on the Church*. Without accepting all the book's conclusions, he praised its methodology and its treatment of questions of Church order important for ecumenism and for the Catholic Church's study of its origin. Diversity of order in the NT offers possibility for greater ecumenical cooperation. The paper treated the function of the principal charismatic gifts of 1 Cor, namely, apostleship, prophecy and teaching. In dealing with the test of faith, the Pastoral Epistles conformed to Paul's norm of conformity to the apostolic preaching. In addition they saw the need of designating their successors by the charism of ordination. Yet, a body of elders shared actively in teaching and ruling. Msgr. Bourke saw Küng's two major contributions as the suggestions that Church order is not tied in every case to ordination, and that the Eucharist could be possible in non-episcopal Churches.

Sessions on Tuesday, August 27

This year a new feature was added to the meeting. Each morning from 9:00—10:30 A.M. were held ten continuing seminars under the direction of specialists. Moderators and topics are listed in the July issue (pp. 413-414). In the morning general session Raymond E. Brown, S.S., delivered a paper entitled, *Did Anyone Move the Stone? Critical Studies and the Empty Tomb*. Evidence points to the account of the empty tomb as part of the primitive kerygma, but this does not prove the resurrection. Interest in the empty tomb does not mean that early Christians looked upon the resurrection of Jesus as a resuscitation. It was seen as an eschatological event with importance for the transformation of matter and the source of theological insight for the Christian's resurrection. The paper dealt with the possible origin of the tradition and development of the different Gospel accounts.

Principal concelebrant for the midday concelebrated Mass of the Holy Spirit was Msgr. Bourke. He delivered a homily on taking seriously Christ's promise of peace to his followers.

The afternoon general session featured the talk of Dr. Irvin M. Arkin on *Rabbinic Hermeneutics in the New Testament*. The possibility that rabbinic

hermeneutics influenced both content and structure of Gospel pericopes must be considered. If such an influence existed in their composition, it must be taken into account for sound exegesis. The paper pointed out Gospel passages that illustrate rabbinic principles. The meeting then separated into two sections to hear research reports.

In the area of OT studies Mitchell J. Dahood, S.J., reported on *Proverbs 8,22-31: A Suggested Translation*. Frederick L. Moriarty, S.J., dealt with *Amos 5,18: A Suggested Translation*. In the NT section James A. Mohler, S.J., discussed *Jewish and Christian Presbyters in the First Century: Similarities and Differences*. He concluded that the Christian presbyterate was related to that of the Jews, and yet was a distinct form. It was recreated under the guidance of the Holy Spirit to fit the needs of the early Christian community. James H. Swetnam, S.J., offered evidence to show that *The Meaning of the Foot Washing in John 13* should be interpreted as a Holy-War ceremony of purification.

The evening session was a panel discussion on the NT Canon. The Rev. Jerome D. Quinn treated it in terms of the problems linked with accepting writings as sacred and normative for the Church. He suggested that approbation by charismatic prophets played the determining role in the community. Quentin Quesnell, S.J., elaborated further on the same problem. No clear, objective norm is satisfactory for explaining the canonization of the NT books. The search for norms is a reflex act that follows the Church's actual experience in receiving the writings. Dr. John H. Elliott then dealt with differing opinions on *The Heart (Center) of the Canon*. After outlining opinions on early Catholicism, he formulated a series of statements about the nature of the gospel for discussion.

Sessions on Wednesday, August 28

In the morning general session Dennis J. McCarthy, S.J., delivered the paper, *Joshua's Farewell Speeches: Studies in Dating and Reinterpretation*. He presented Jos 24, 1-24 as a late cento having literary unity; it is constructed with great skill but is not a unified composition. The redactor is reacting to a shattering experience of the people, and may have even used Chapter 23 as his model. The Most Rev. John F. Whealon was presiding concelebrant at the memorial Mass for deceased members. In the homily he offered them as models of work and courage, comparable to the heroes praised by Sirach.

Elective research reports began the afternoon proceedings. In the OT section Carroll Stuhlmueller, C.P., treated *Pre-exilic Faith in Yahweh-Creator Viewed from Deutero-Isaiah*. He raised questions about sources of the author's teachings. James C. Plastaras, C.M., showed evidence in the text to postulate the *Cultic Setting of the Priestly Creation Narrative*. The P authors seem to describe creation as the establishment of a cosmic sanctuary; the whole universe is meant to be the sanctuary in which man encounters God. Mr. Thomas L. Thompson reported on *Some Archeological Evidence and the MB I Dating of the Patriarchs*. He questioned the suitability of identifying the period 2000-1800 B.C. as the Patriarchal Period.

Martin K. Hopkins, O.P., opened the reports in the NT section with an attempt to find a deeper level of meaning in the temptation narratives than the traditional interpretation. He presented *The Temptations as Jesus' Identity Crisis*. The scene is a panorama providing insight into what Jesus is going to be. It points to his natural and adopted divine Sonship, and can be compared to the kenosis hymn of Phil 2,5-11. Because of a programing difficulty, Mrs. Dorothy I. Thompson gave her report in this section. She discussed the identity of *Yahweh and the Angel of Yahweh* in the light of the epistolary form and the oral-message form in the ancient Near East. She concluded that extant biblical texts do not confuse the angel with Yahweh. The Rev. Edward L. Bode offered a summary of his research on the resurrection narratives in a report entitled, *Who Said What at the Easter Tomb?* He pointed out the composite nature of Mk 16, 1-8 and parallels; the addition of kerygmatic, apologetic and liturgical motifs shows the importance placed on this narrative.

Business Meeting

The annual business meeting opened with the report of the treasurer, Joseph E. Fallon, O.P. The chairman of the Board of Trustees, Rt. Rev. Msgr. John E. Steinmueller, then gave an accounting of the disposition of the association's assets. The Rev. Louis F. Hartman, C.S.S.R., began his report as Executive Secretary of the CBA by stating that the loss of assets this year was caused by the expense involved in paying one-half of the cost of changing proper names for the revised CCD translation of the OT. The Executive Board voted the change last year. The entire translation of both OT and NT is completed and in the hands of the printers, St. Anthony Guild Press. Volume III of the OT, the historical books, is being printed, and the NT will be available in the near future. The Book of Genesis has also been revised.

He announced that the following grants had been authorized by the Executive Board: a grant of \$500.00 to Bernadin Schneider, O.F.M., to help defray the expenses in higher biblical studies of Leo Hoshino, O.F.M., of Japan; a grant of \$500.00 to Peter Nober, S.J., toward publishing of *Elenchus bibliographicus biblicus*; a grant of \$100.00 toward the printing of a Haitian translation of the Gospels; a commitment of \$1,500.00 per year for five years beginning in 1969-70 for a Visiting Professor from CBA to the Pontifical Biblical Institute, plus an additional \$500.00 in the first year for books. Raymond E. Brown, S.S., who had recommended this commitment, explained its purpose, and more details will be sent to all members of the association. The Executive Board has authorized the incoming president to select a committee to judge applications from CBA members. James H. Swetnam, S.J., thanked the association for the grants relating to the PBI.

Fr. Hartman reported that the board has approved the attendance of two representatives from the CBA at the International Congress of Bible Societies in Rome during the spring of 1969. It has also voted to cooperate in sponsoring National Bible Reading Week. Bishop Whealon, who is the association's

liaison with the American Bible Society, spoke briefly about the project and urged members to cooperate in it. Fr. Hartman then called for a vote on the proposed changes in By-laws, which were formally announced by letter of June 21, 1968. The changes proposed are: (a) that in By-law 6, "\$100.00" be changed to "\$200.00": and (b) that in By-law 7, "\$250.00" be changed to "\$500.00." The changes were approved unanimously. He reported that the Audio-Visual Aids Committee had contributed \$6,000.00 to the association from the sale of materials. As voted last year, the 1969 General Meeting will be held at St. John Vianney Seminary, East Aurora, N.Y., during the week preceding Labor Day. The secretary concluded by thanking members of the program committee and the committee on local arrangements for their work in preparing this meeting. The three reports were then approved unanimously.

Acting Editor of the *CBQ*, Msgr. Francis S. Rossiter, reported that of 55 articles submitted during the year, 23 had been accepted, 7 returned for revision, and 8 were still being considered by the editorial board. He asked for suggestions and for continued cooperation from members in sending both articles and shorter communications to the review. He urged those who had prepared research reports to offer them for consideration by the editorial board. He thanked Alexander A. Di Lella, O.F.M., for his competent handling of the book reviews. Both Greek and unpointed Hebrew type fonts are now available, but transliteration should still be used for single words and short phrases. On behalf of the society Msgr. Rossiter thanked the following members of the editorial board who are retiring because of other obligations: F. Bruce Vawter, C.M., Editor, Thomas O. Barrosse, C.S.C., and Christian P. Ceroke, O. Carm.

On behalf of the Committee on Credentials, Bernard A. Lazor, O.S.A., recommended the following new members, all of whom were accepted unanimously for the type of membership proposed.

For *active* membership: Rev. Edward L. Bode, Rome, Italy; Rev. Salvador Carillo-Alday, M.Sp.S., Avenida Universidad, Mexico; Rev. John F. Craghan, C.S.S.R., Esopus, N.Y.; Prof. Frank M. Cross, Lexington, Mass.; Rev. Michael J. Czynski, S.C.J., Hales Corners, Wis.; Rev. Stephen C. Doyle, O.F.M., St. Bonaventure, N.Y.; Rev. Lawrence Frizzell, Memphis, Tenn.; Mr. John W. Groutt, Glenshaw, Penna.; Rev. Julien Harvey, S.J., Montreal, Canada; Rev. Damien M. Kraus, O.S.B., Marvin, So. Dakota; Rev. Roger L. Lapointe, O.M.I., Regina (Sask.), Canada; Dr. Gary L. Lease, Chicago, Ill.; Rev. John W. MacCandless, Metairie, La.; Dr. Charlene B. McCarthy, San Francisco, Calif.; Rev. Edward Malatesta, S.J., Rome, Italy; Rev. Ernest R. Martinez, S.J., Rome, Italy; Rev. Andrew Miles, O.S.B., Canon City, Colorado; Dr. Keith F. Nickle, St. Louis, Mo.; Rev. Mr. Kevin G. O'Connell, S.J., Weston, Mass.; Rev. John B. Peckham, S.J., Willowdale (Ont.), Canada; Prof. Kent H. Richards, Dayton, Ohio; Prof. H. Neil Richardson, Newtonville, Mass.; Rev. Thomas C. Schaub, O.P., Dubuque, Iowa; Rev. Dr. Byron Esely Shafer, Bronx, N.Y.; Rev. James D. Shenkel, S.J., Woodstock, Md.; Prof. Krister Stendahl, Cambridge, Mass.; Rev. Thomas M. Suriano, Milwaukee, Wisc.;

Rev. Joseph M. Valiamangalam, Kerala State, India; Rev. Thomas Wahl, O.S.B., Collegeville, Minn.; Sr. Rose Wilker, S.N.D., Boston, Mass.; Rev. Joseph F. Wimmer, O.S.A., Washington, D.C.

For *associate* membership: Mr. Alfred F. Corbo, Yonkers, N.Y.; Sr. M. Amata Fabbro, O.P., Grand Rapids, Mich.; Rev. Arthur P. Finan, C.S.S.R., Suffield, Conn.; Rev. Raymond F. Halligan, O.P., Philadelphia, Penna.; Mr. Hugh M. Humphrey, Riverdale, N.Y.; Rev. Jack R. Lundbom, San Anselmo, Calif.; Rev. Burton MacDonald, Antigonish (Nova Scotia), Canada; Rev. Robert P. Mahoney, Würzburg, Germany; Rev. Francis X. Malinowski, C.S.Sp., Pittsburg, Penna.; Rev. John F. O'Grady, C.M., Albany, N.Y.; Rev. Charles L. Palms, C.S.P., Austin, Texas; Dr. Sonya A. Quitslund, Bethesda, Md.; Rev. Mr. Anthony Saldarini, S.J., New Haven, Conn.; Mr. Donald M. Spoto, New Rochelle, N.Y.; Rev. Michael G. Steinhauser, Ridgewood, N.Y.

Chairman of the Committee on Nominations, Francis J. Schroeder, S.S.J., offered in nomination the following candidates: *Pres.*, Roland E. Murphy, O.Carm.; *Vice-Pres.*, Robert North, S.J., *Exec. Sec.*, Louis F. Hartman, C.S.S.R.; *Treasurer*, Joseph E. Fallon, O.P.; *Editor of CBQ*, Rt. Rev. Msgr. Francis S. Rossiter; additional *Associate Editors of CBQ*, Rt. Rev. Msgr. Myles M. Bourke, Dennis J. McCarthy, S.J., Neil J. McEleney, C.S.P., George T. Montague, S. M.; *Chairman, Board of Trustees*, '68-'71, Rt. Rev. Msgr. John E. Steinmueller; *Consultor*, '68-'70, Edward J. Crowley, C.S.S.R.; *Consultor, CCD*, '68-'70, Neil J. McEleney, C.S.P.; on *Committee on Nominations*, '68-'72, Rev. Thomas H. Weber; on *Program Committee*, '68-'71, Rev. Peter J. Kearney. This slate was unopposed. No new business was introduced, and the president adjourned the business meeting at 5 P.M.

The evening session was a panel discussion devoted to *Recent Developments in Gospel Studies*. George W. MacRae, S.J., outlined different types of primitive "gospels," and pointed out the need of fuller research into the prehistory of the canonical Gospels. The process of canonization was critically selective. Neil J. McEleney, C.S.P., offered a series of new questions for discussion in Gospel ethics. New problems have been raised by critical studies on the Gospel tradition and on the humanity of Jesus. Dr. Frederick W. Danker of Concordia Seminary offered a survey and evaluation of recent studies on the Son of Man in Mk.

Session of Thursday, August 29

After the continuing seminars, Robert North, S.J., addressed the general meeting on *Hermeneutics in the New Pannenberg and the Old First Vatican*. In 30 theses he showed that Pannenberg holds real history to be the necessary basis for faith. He agrees with Vatican I that belief in the existence of God must be grasped with certitude by reason prior to faith. And yet, Pannenberg's explanation of the history upon which faith rests transforms real history into a metahistory or kerygma that coincides with the Barth-Bultmann consensus. A concelebrated Mass of Thanksgiving, at which Fr. Hartman was principal celebrant, closed the general meeting. His homily explained that thanking God

is telling him how wonderful he is. At the eucharistic sacrifice we express this thanks with Christ himself.

Members of the *CBA* in attendance were:

Arkin, Dr Irvin M.	Hopkins, Martin K., O.P.
Bode, Rev. Edward L.	Hunt, Ignatius, O.S.B.
Bourke, Rt. Rev. Myles M.	Kearney, Rev. Peter J.
Brown, Raymond E., S.S.	Kelly, James C., O.S.B.
Budy, Bertrand, S.M.	King, Rev. Philip J.
Bucher, Otto, O.F.M.Cap.	Kraus, Damien, O.S.B.
Buckley, Rev. Thomas W.	Kselman, John S., S.S.
Burger, Matthias, O.S.B.	Kugelman, Richard, C.P.
Bushinski, Leonard A., C.S.Sp.	Lane, Sr. John Mary, S.N.J.M.
Cabey, Edwin, S.V.D.	Lapointe, Roger L., O.M.I.
Cahill, P. Joseph, S.J.	Lazor, Bernard A., O.S.A.
Ciuba, Rev. Edward J.	Legault, André, C.S.C.
Comiskey, Rev. John P.	Lenti, Authur J., S.D.B.
Cordano, Virgil, O.F.M.	Lesquivit, F. Columban, O.S.B.
Couture, Paul E., S.S.E.	Loveley, Edward M., S.J.
Craghan, John F., C.S.S.R.	Lynch, William E., C.M.
Crane, Rev. Thomas E.	McAlee, Eugene, C.S.S.R.
Crone, Rev. Theodore M.	McCarthy, Dr. Charlene
Crowley, Edward J., C.S.S.R.	McCarthy, Dennis J., S.J.
Cunningham, James J., O.P.	McEleney, Neil J., C.S.P.
Dahood, Mitchell, S.J.	McGovern, John J., M.M.
Davis, James, O.P.	McGrath, Brendan, O.S.B.
Di Lella, Alexander A., O.F.M.	McKenzie, John L., S.J.
Dresse, Rev. John J.	MacCandless, Rev. John W.
Elliott, Dr. John H.	MacDonald, Rev. Burton
Fallon, Joseph E., O.P.	MacRae, George W., S.J.
Finan, Arthur P., C.S.S.R.	Mallon, Vincent P., M.M.
Ford, Daniel F., O.F.M.	Maly, Rev. Eugene H.
Forestell, James T., C.S.B.	Martin, Rev. Francis
Fournelle, Geron, O.F.M.	Mohler, James A., S.J.
Frizzell, Rev. Lawrence	Moriarty, Frederick L., S.J.
Giblin, Charles H., S.J.	Murphy, Roland E., O.Carm.
Glavin, Patrick, O.F.M.Cap.	Musholt, Silas, O.F.M.
Grassi, Joseph A., M.M.	Nickle, Dr. Keith F.
Graycar, Rev. Paul M.	Nienaltowski, Henry, O.F.M.Cap.
Grindel, John A., C.M.	North, Robert, S.J.
Grispino, Joseph A., S.M.	O'Grady, John F., C.M.
Guinan, Michael D., O.F.M.	O'Loughlin, Raphael, C.S.B.
Hartman, Louis F., C.S.S.R.	Panella, Rev. Donald A.
Harvey, Julien, S.J.	Patrick, Augustine, O.F.M. Conv.
Held, Sr. Leontine, S.S.N.D.	Peifer, Claude, O.S.B.
Heupler, Charles G., O.F.M.	Petru, Francis A., S.J.

Pilch, John, O.F.M.
 Plastaras, James C., C.M.
 Polan, Stanley M., SS.CC.
 Quesnell, Quentin, S.J.
 Quinn, Rev. Jerome D.
 Rau, Rev. Donald E.
 Reese, James M., O.S.F.S.
 Rodriguez, Mauro, S.D.B.
 Ronan, Rev. James L.
 Rossiter, Rt. Rev. Francis S.
 Rubsys, Rev. Anthony L.
 Saladna, Rev. George E.
 Schoenberg, Martin W., O.S.C.
 Schroeder, Francis J., S.S.J.
 Siebeneck, Robert T., C.P.P.S.
 Skehan, Rt. Rev. Patrick W.
 Sklba, Rev. Richard J.
 Smith, Alan, O.P.
 Smith, Simon E., S.J.
 Sorensen, Howard J., O.M.I.

Stanley, David M., S.J.
 Steiner, Luke J., O.S.B.
 Steinmueller, Rt. Rev. John E.
 Strange, Marcian, O.S.B.
 Stuhlmüller, Carroll, C.P.
 Suelzer, Sr. Alexa, S.P.
 Sullivan, Sr. Kathryn, R.S.C.J.
 Swetnam, James H., S.J.
 Thompson, Mrs. Dorothy
 Thompson, Mr. Thomas L.
 Tkacik, Arnold J., O.S.B.
 Trautman, Rev. David W.
 Turner, Rev. Wayne A.
 Wahl, Thomas, O.S.B.
 Weber, Rev. Thomas H.
 Weis, Earl A., S.J.
 ✕ Whealon, Most Rev. John F.
 White, Sr. Alphonsiane, N.D.S.
 Wilker, Sr. Rose M., S.N.D.
 Yelle, Zenon, S.S.

JAMES M. REESE, O.S.F.S.
Recording Secretary