OF THE CATHOLIC BIBLICAL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Our Lady of the Angels Seminary, near Albany, New York, was host for the 33d General Meeting of the CBA, held from Monday, August 31, to Thursday, September 3, 1970. Beginning with an evening session on Monday, Rev. Jerome Quinn, Vice-President of the CBA, first introduced the Rector of our host seminary, Rev. George Regan, who welcomed us warmly. For the many CBA members who had become accustomed to having the general session called to order by Rev. Louis F. Hartman, C.SS.R., an absence was already felt. For Fr. Hartman passed away suddenly in Washington, D.C., on August 22. Because but a short time had passed since his death, many CBA members learned of Fr. Hartman's death only now, as our session came to order. Fr. Quinn requested a moment of silence and prayer in honor of Fr. Hartman; then the meeting proceeded to the work which Fr. Hartman himself loved so dearly.

The presidential address, "The Languages of Palestine in the First Century, A.D." was delivered by Joseph A. Fitzmyer, S.J., of the University of Chicago. It surveyed the literary and epigraphic material for the use of Latin, Greek, Aramaic, and Hebrew in the first century and up to the Bar Cochba revolt. The full text of Fr. Fitzmyer's presentation is found in this issue of the CBQ.

Sessions on Tuesday, September 1

Fr. Mitchell Dahood, S.J., was the principal concelebrant and the homilist of the morning liturgy.

A selection of continuing seminars was included again in this year's program schedule and, as in the past, they proved to be a popular study form within the General Meeting. The continuing seminars were held on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings, from 9:00 to 10:45 A.M., with brief coffee break included. Seminar leaders and their respective topics were the following: Mitchell Dahood: "The Impact of Ugaritic on Translating the Book of Job: An Assessment of the Job Translation in the New English Bible"; Richard Dillon: "The Discourse Chapters in St. John's Gospel"; Joseph Jensen: "Relationship of Wisdom to Other Biblical Traditions"; Leo LaBerge: "The Formation of the Book of Isaiah"; Roger Lapointe: "Linguistic Application of Sitz im Leben"; Jerome Quinn: "Problems in the Pastorals, II—A Continuation"; Kent Richards: "Form Criticism and the Interpretation of the Old Testament"; William Thompson: "The Composition of Matthew 8-9"; and Richard Zehnle: "Variety in Early Christianity."

This morning's general session consisted of a paper by Dennis McCarthy, S.J., "The Theology of Leadership in Jos 2-10." The Book of Joshua has usually been

studied for possible historical or topographical information, but it is primarily a careful literary theological construction. From the literary viewpoint the stories so often treated simply as etiologies of place-names, etc., are a set of exciting popular tales carefully worked together into a whole to emphasize the role of Joshua. He is the divinely appointed guide and wonder-worker whose accomplishments spread panic through the land, so that through him the conquest is virtually accomplished. Questions and discussion followed Fr. McCarthy's presentation.

Principal concelebrant of the midday Eucharist was Rev. Mauro Rodriguez Estrada, S.D.B. The homily was preached by Rev. Richard Kugelman, C.P.

The afternoon period was given over to a program of half-hour research reports. Three or four reports were given simultaneously during each of five half-hour periods. Presentations were to the point; participation by those attending was active and stimulating. Speakers and their research topics were the following: Charles H. Henkey: "Morphe Theou in Phil 2,6"; Peter Kearney: "Hewers of Wood and Drawers of Water: The Relationship Dt 29 and Jos 9; Richard Clifford: "The Tent of Meeting"; James Plastaras: "The Unity of the Bread of Life Discourse" (read by Edward J. Martin, C.M.); Edwin Cabey: "Mark's Introduction (1,1-13) Compared with Those of Matthew and Luke"; Mitchell Dahood: "Words and Deeds: A Note on Eccl 12,11"; John A. Donahue: "Tradition and Redaction in the Marcan Trial Narrative (Mk 14,53-65)"; Kent Richards: "The Old Testament Form-Critical Project, 1967-1970"; Joseph Jensen: "The Use of tôrâ by Isaiah"; Leo LaBerge: "Is 30,19-26 in the Context of Is 28-33: How the Book of Isaiah Took Its Actual Form"; Eugene Laverdiere: "Historical Criticism of Lk 24,13-35"; Charles H. Giblin: "The Things of God in the Parable of the Coin of Tribute (Lk 20,25; Mk 12,17; Mt 22,21)"; Imre Mihalik: "El in the Early Sources of the Old Testament"; Roger Lapointe: "On Night Becoming Light"; John Dominic Crossan: "Mark and the Relatives of Jesus (Mk 3,21-35)"; Mauro Rodriguez Estrada: "Prophetic Actions and Psychiatry/Psychoanalysis"; James Swetnam: "What Does the Old Testament's 'New Covenant' Mean? (Jer 31,31)"; James Swetnam: "'Heard Because of His Piety': Heb 5,7"; and John MacCandless: "Leben-Jesu Forschung Methodology."

Monday evening's session consisted of an Old Testament panel discussion, on "Genesis: the Four-Source Theory Revisited." Fr. Frederick Moriarty, S.J., was chairman for the discussion; the three panelists were Dr. G. Ernest Wright, Fr. Eugene Maly, and Sister Alexa Suelzer, S.P. Professor Wright was the first to speak, with the other panelists commenting as reactors. Several times during the discussion questions and comments were received from the floor. Whether or not P source existed as an independent source in the same manner as J or E; whether or not it is true that P had no account of the Covenant, even though the Covenant is so central to P's theology; P's overriding concern with sin, holiness, and defilement, even though it has no story of sin's origin; the nature and date of E; whether it is possible to develop a *Redaktionsgeschichte* for the book of Genesis; the seeming impossibility of writing a reliable history of ancient Israel: these topics were among the questions discussed by the panel.

Sessions on Wednesday, September 2

Msgr. John Steinmueller was the principal concelebrant and the homilist at the morning liturgy.

At the morning general session, after the continuing seminars, Gerald O'Collins, S. J., presented the paper "Power Made Perfect in Weakness: 2 Cor 12,9f." In this passage Paul is not intent on formulating a general principle valid for all Christians in their "weaknesses." Nor does he view "weakness" as a pre-condition for the bestowal of divine strength. The "weakness" of the apostle forms the situation in which the triumphant power of Christ reaches its perfection and so is revealed to others. Questions and discussion followed Fr. O'Collins' presentation.

Fr. Joseph Fitzmyer, S.J., was principal celebrant of the midday liturgy, which was a memorial for the Deceased Members of the CBA. Msgr. Patrick Skehan delivered the homily.

Business Meeting

The first item on the afternoon agenda was the annual business meeting. Joseph Fitzmyer was chairman for the meeting.

In Fr. Hartman's place, Joseph Jensen began the meeting with the Executive Secretary's report. The depletion of CBA's cash reserve was commented upon. The secretary said that this meeting would have to decide whether or not to raise membership dues.

Three grants were approved this year: \$1500 to Myles Bourke, who will be visiting professor at the Pontifical Biblical Institute for the second semester of the coming school year; \$500 to the Biblical Institute toward expenses for publication of the *Elenchus Bibliographicus* to *Biblica*; \$500 to Bernadin Schneider, toward the expenses for education in Rome and Jerusalem of a young Japanese Franciscan who will work on a Japanese translation of the Bible.

Another grant was approved "in principle," namely a grant for a visiting professor from the CBA to teach at the Ecole Biblique in Jerusalem, which grant would be comparable to the one now granted to our visting professor to the P.B.I. in Rome. Details have still to be worked out before a visiting professor can be designated for 1971-72.

Regarding the Audio-Visual Aids project, Professor Joseph Grassi has forwarded \$1000 gained through this project. Nevertheless, demand for such material is now so minimal that Professor Grassi suggests we discontinue this project. Remaining materials will be forwarded to the CBA office in Washington, D.C., where all future orders should be placed.

Discussion followed on our relationship with the World Catholic Federation for the Biblical Apostolate. In the past year Louis Hartman had attended two meetings of this group in Europe; at these meetings, however, he informed the Federation that the CBA did not feel it was its role to participate in this Federation, since the CBA is dedicated to scholarly study of the Scriptures,

rather than to apostolates for spreading the reading of the Bible. In the future this part of the biblical apostolate will probably be undertaken by the national CCD office.

Finally Fr. Jensen extended personal thanks to the Program Committee and to the Committee on Local Arrangements at our host seminary for their excellent help and cooperation.

Joseph Fallon next gave the financial report. In general there has been a decline in our finances. "We have convinced the government that we are a non-profit organization."

Next we heard the report of Francis S. Rossiter, Editor of CBQ. In the past year 55 articles were submitted to the CBQ, 30 of them from CBA members. Of these, 21 articles were accepted for publication, 27 were declined, and 7 remain presently under consideration. Once again the CBQ Editor encouraged all members, especially the new members of the Association, to contribute articles for CBQ. Also in the past year 175 books were reviewed in the CBQ, 139 of them by CBA members. In January of 1971 a new style sheet will be published in the CBQ.

The President next reported on the recently initiated CBQ Monograph Series. At present only one monograph is in preparation, namely, the collected articles of Patrick Skehan. Several other monograph possibilities have been proposed, and at present they are under consideration.

Stephen Hartdegen gave a progress report on the New American Bible. Publication date is September 30, 1970. This date was chosen since September 30 is the feast of St. Jerome, patron of Bible studies, and also because September 30 marks the anniversary of the encyclical which stimulated the CBA toward this monumental effort, "Divino Afflante Spiritu," issued by Pope Pius XII on September 30, 1943. Father Hartdegen also announced that there will be a liturgical celebration in thanksgiving for the publication of the "NAB": a concelebrated Mass will be offered on October 3, 1970, at 5:15 P.M. in the National Shrine in Washington, D.C. All CBA members who can possibly attend are warmly invited to do so.

Next on the agenda, some amendments to the CBA Constitution and By-laws were proposed. The first suggested amendment received the most extended discussion, a proposed change in Art. VII on Committees, providing for a new Committee on Resolutions in Sect. 3, and listing the current Sect. 3 as Sect. 4. Two changes in the wording of the proposed amendment were adopted. The form of the amendment which was offered for the vote of the assembly was the following: Article VII, Sect. 3, shall now read: There shall be a Committee on Resolutions consisting of three members appointed by the President. This committee shall be empowered to formulate and to present at the Business Session resolutions requested by the Executive Board. Individual members or groups wishing to present resolutions shall be required to confer with the Committee on Resolutions concerning the formulation of their resolutions. The text of the resolutions shall be distributed to the Active Members at least 24 hours before the Business Session,

if the Committee deems it advisable. This amendment was put into the form of a motion by Charles H. Giblin, and seconded by Edward L. Bode. The amendment was accepted by strong majority vote of the members present.

The next amendment was proposed for the By-laws. According to this proposal, the first sentence of By-law 4,a (on Art. III,1), which read: "All members shall pay annual dues of \$7.00," was suggested to be changed to the following: All members shall pay annual dues in the amount determined by the Association at its General Meetings. This proposal was put into the form of a motion by Irvin M. Arkin, and seconded by Richard J. Sklba. It too was accepted by a strong majority vote.

With the passage of this last amendment, it was now possible to settle the question raised in his report by Joseph Jensen, namely, whether or not the CBA should raise its dues at this time. Discussion showed the necessity for an increase, and \$12 per year seemed to be the most suitable amount for our dues at this time. This was proposed as a motion by Richard Kugelman and seconded by Charles Giblin. The motion passed by a clear majority.

John Steinmueller gave the chairman's report for the Board of Trustees. He gave the financial figures, explaining further what we had heard earlier in the Treasurer's Report.

Moving to the matter of time and place for next year's General Meeting, the President announced that the CBA had received several gracious invitations from midwestern locations for next year's meeting. The Executive Board was most inclined to accept the invitation extended by Marquette University. Because of Marquette's schedules, however, we would have to hold our meeting slightly earlier than we normally do, specifically from August 23 to August 26, 1971. Patrick Skehan made the motion that we agree to meet at this slightly earlier time next year; Thomas Suriano seconded this motion, and it was passed. The President then announced that next year's General Meeting will be held at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The President next reported on our relationship with the Council on the Study of Religion. At last year's meeting he and Raymond E. Brown had been appointed to represent the CBA in meetings of this Council. Raymond Brown was not able to accept this position, and so George MacRae was selected to join Joseph Fitzmyer on this project. The year having passed, Alexander Di Lella is now named to replace Joseph Fitzmyer in this capacity; George MacRae will retain this position until the end of 1971.

Brief discussion was given over to the question of whether or not the CBA should augment or retain its present contribution to this Council, \$1.25 per year per CBA member. Martin Schoenberg made the motion that CBA retain this present amount, Jerome Quinn seconded the motion, and it was passed.

The next topic was a discussion of our 1972 General Meeting. That year the CBA will be participating in the international meeting organized by the Council on the Study of Religion, to be held from September 2 to September 6, 1972, in Los Angeles, California. The question at hand was whether the CBA should

hold a distinct meeting in Los Angeles, or whether it should limit itself to having certain of its sessions within the four days that members would also be together for the CSR assembly. Alexander Di Lella moved that the CBA hold its 1972 General Meeting within these same four days as the CSR meeting, during periods left free in the CSR schedule. Dennis McCarthy seconded this motion, and it was passed.

The Nominations Committee next offered the following names for offices in the CBA for the coming year: President: Rev. Jerome Quinn; Vice-President: Rev. Philip King; Executive Secretary: Rev. Joseph Jensen, O.S.B.; Treasurer: Rev. Joseph E. Fallon, O.P.; Editor: Msgr. Francis S. Rossiter; Consultors: Rev. Thomas W. Leahy and Rev. Edward Ciuba, '70-'72; Member of the Nominations Committee: Rev. Martin W. Schoenberg. That we accept these nominees was moved by Irvin Arkin and seconded by Joseph Wilhelm. The motion passed unanimously, and these individuals become the CBA officers for the coming year.

The following persons were appointed to the Program Committee: Rev. Richard J. Sklba, '70-'71; Rev. Thomas E. Crane, '70-'72; Rev. Francis Martin, '70-'73; Sister Alexa Suelzer, '70-'74.

Joseph Jensen, speaking for the Committee on Credentials, next offered the following applicants for membership in the CBA:

For Active Membership: Rev. John L. Boyle, S.J., Berkeley, California; Rev. P. Schuyler Brown, S.J., New York, N.Y.; Rev. Thomas R. Brummel, C.M.F., Washington, D.C.; Dr. George W. Coats, Lexington, Ky.; Dr. James L. Crenshaw, Nashville, Tenn.; Rev. James P. Doyle, Mundelein, Ill.; Rev. Marcel Dumais, O.M.I., Ottawa, Ont., Canada; Bro. Aloysius Fitzgerald, F.S.C., Washington, D.C.; Rev. James W. Flanagan, Dubuque, Iowa; Rev. Daniel J. Harrington, S.J., Cambridge, Mass.; Prof. John H. Hayes, San Antonio, Texas; Rev. Benedict F. Janecko, O.S.B., Latrobe, Penn.; Rev. Robert J. Karris, O.F.M., Boston, Mass.; Dr. Jack D. Kingsbury, St. Paul, Minn.; Rev. Jerome W. Kodell, O.S.B., Subiaco, Ark.; Dr. George H. Liebenow, Cincinnati, Ohio; Rev. Jean-Paul Michaud, S.M.M., Ottawa, Ont., Canada; Rev. Charles H. Miller, S.M., St. Louis, Mo.; Rev. Daniel A. Murray, Philadelphia, Penn.; Dr. Murray L. Newman, Jr., Alexandria, Va.; Rev. Peter H. Nickels, O.F.M.Conv., Chaska, Minn.; Rev. Thomas C. Petronek, Bloomingdale, Ohio; Prof. James McC. Robinson, Claremont, Calif.; Rev. Walter A. Vogels, W. F., Ottawa, Ont., Canada; Dr. William O. Walker, Jr., San Antonio, Texas; and Rev. Anthony Wei Yüeh-shan, Loretto, Penn.

For Associate Membership: Dr. Bobby L. Adams, Cali, Colombia, S.A.; Sister Dianne Bergant, C.S.A., Fond du Lac, Wis.; Rev. Tod D. Brown, Monterey, Calif.; Bro. Joseph A. Comber, C.F.X., Chicago, Ill.; Rev. John P. Connelly, Claremont, Calif.; Miss Roberta M. Eisenberg, Woodside, N.Y.; Rev. Sherman W. Gray, Greenwich, Conn.; Rev. Donald J. Keefe, St. Louis, Mo.; Rev. Terence J. Keegan, O.P., Dover, Mass.; Mr. Joseph G. Kelly, Rochester, N.Y.; Rev. William S. Kurz, S.J., St. Louis, Mo.; Fra. Elias D. Mallon, Washington,

D.C.; Miss Elizabeth Ann Meier, Bronx, N.Y.; Sister Helen O'Neill, O.P., Ottawa, Ont., Canada; Mr. John J. Schmitt, Chicago, Ill.; and Rev. James M. Sheridan, O.S.B., Washington, D.C.

Acceptance of these candidates as new members was put into the form of a motion by Thomas Crane and seconded by Kent Richards. The motion passed unanimously.

The President read a letter which he received from Rev. Carlo Martini, Rector of the Biblical Institute in Rome, expressing his appreciation for the presence of Patrick Skehan on his faculty for the first semester of the past school year. Myles Bourke will be visiting professor there for the coming school year, during its second semester. Applications for this position for the 1971-1972 school year are still being accepted.

The Committee on Resolutions next offered the following three-part resolution: The members of the Catholic Biblical Association of America, gathered for their Thirty-third Annual Meeting, at the Seminary of Our Lady of Angels, Albany, New York, resolve:

- To thank the Vincentian Fathers, students and staff of the Seminary for their gracious hospitality;
- 2. To express publicly their gratification at the appearance of the New American Bible, and to thank those members of the Association and others, both living and dead, who have by their tireless labors brought this great work to a happy conclusion;
- 3. To convey to his family, his brothers in religion, and his colleagues of the Catholic University of America their deep sympathy at the recent death of the Reverend Louis F. Hartman, C.SS.R., to whom the Association is forever indebted because of his twenty-two years of devoted service as its Executive Secretary; which communication is to be carried out by our Executive Secretary.

This resolution was placed in the form of a motion by Brendan McGrath, and seconded by Richard Kugelman. The motion passed unanimously.

All business having been completed, a motion to adjourn the meeting was offered by Jerome Quinn and seconded by Frederick Moriarty. The motion passed unanimously.

The program for the afternoon was completed with Bruce Vawter, C.M., presenting to a general session his paper entitled "The Authority of the Bible." Assuming that the Bible is a normative source of authority, where precisely are we supposed to discover its norm? Traditionally we have looked to "the final author," that is, to the canonical form of the text. Yet we have not always been consistent in this. This paper took the Christological hymn in Col 1 as a paradigm of the problem presented by the redactional character of much of the Bible to examine the question afresh, and it concluded that the pre-canonical forms of the biblical material must also be considered in outlining any "biblical theology."

There was no discussion period following this paper; rather this was reserved until the evening session.

The evening period consisted of a panel discussion, prepared in collaboration

with the World Council of Churches. Something of a continuation from the afternoon's general session, the panel was entitled "The Authority of the Bible and the Theological Function." Bruce Vawter, Joseph Cahill, and Daniel Fraikin were the panelists. Serving as moderator, Francis Martin began the discussion by summarizing the principal points of Bruce Vawter's paper from the afternoon. Numerous ideas were probed by the panelists and by participants from the assembly. Biblical assimilation of sympathetic material within the formation of a pericope; the function of traditional texts within a community; the inspirational character of the process; evolution of human consciousness evident within the books of the Bible; the validity of the whole question of the Bible's authority: these were among the points considered in the discussion.

Sessions of Thursday, September 3

Edward Martin was the principal concelebrant and the homilist at the morning Eucharist. The continuing seminars held concluding dialogues. Principal concelebrant for the midday liturgy was Gerald O'Collins; Thomas Leahy delivered the homily.

The following members of the CBA were registered in attendance at the General Meeting:

Arkin, Irvin Meinrad Aune, David E. Bellet, Paulinus, O.S.B. Bergant, D., Sr., C.S.A. Bode, Edward L. Boyle, John, S.J. Brodie, Louis Buby, Bertrand, S.M. Bucher, Otto, O.F.M.Cap. Buckley, Thomas Cabey, Edwin, S.V.D. Cahill, Joseph Casey, William, S.J. Cathcart, Kevin, S.J. Ciuba, Edward Cleary, Francis, S.J. Clifford, Richard J., S.J. Clifton, James J., C.F.X. Comber, Joseph, C.F.X. Collins, Thomas A., O.P. Comiskey, John P. Corcoran, Cassian, O.F.M. Cordano, Virgil, O.F.M. Couture, Paul, S.S.E. Crane, Thomas Crossan, John Dominic Cunningham, James, O.P.

Dahood, Mitchell, S.J. Davis, James, O.P. Debold, Walter DeVault, Joseph J., S.J. Di Lella, Alexander, O.F.M. Dillon, Richard Donahue, John R., S.J. Doyle, James P. Draina, Cyril, S.T. Duffy, Consuela Marie, Sr., S.B.S. Dumais, Marcel, O.M.I. Eisenberg, Roberta A. Estrada, Mauro Rodriguez, S.D.B. Fallon, Joseph E., O.P. Fitzgerald, Aloysuis, F.S.C. Fitzmyer, Joseph A., S.J. Forestall, J. T., C.S.B. Fournelle, Geron, O.F.M. Fraikin, Daniel Giblin, Charles H., S.J., Graycar, Paul M. Griffith, Sidney, S.T. Grindel, John A., C.M. Hanley, J. G. Harrington, Daniel, S.J. Hartdegen, Stephen, O.F.M. Hayes, Bonaventure F., O.F.M.

Heemrood, J. Heidt, William, O.S.B. Heise, Joris, O.F.M. Heuheg, Charles H. Heupler, Charles, O.F.M. Jensen, Joseph, O.S.B. Jones, David Karris, Robert, O.F.M. Kearney, Peter Kelly, James C., O.S.B. King, Philip J. Kugelman, Richard, C.P. Kurz, William S., S.J. LaBerge, Leo, O.M.I. Lapointe, Roger, O.M.I. LaVerdiere, Eugene, SS.S. Lawton, Robert Lazor, Bernard A., O.S.A. Leahy, Thomas W., S.J. Liebenow, Hans MacCandless, John McCarthy, Dennis J., S.J. McEleney, Neil J., C.S.P. McGovern, John J. McLinden, Sr. M., O.P. Maly, Eugene Martin, Edward, C.M. Martin, Francis Michaud, Jean-Paul, S.M.M. Miller, Charles H., S.M. Montague, George T., S.M. Moriarty, Frederick L., S.J. Mihalik, Imre Murphy, John P. Newman, Murray L. Nickels, Peter, O.F.M. Nickle, Keith North, Robert, S.J. O'Collins, Gerald, S.J. Ouellette, Lucien, C.S.V.

O'Grady, John F., C.M. O'Neil, Sr. Helen O., O.P. Panella, Donald A. Poirer, Leandre, O.F.M. Polyin, Robert Petru, Francis A., S.J. Quinn, Jerome D. Reardon, Patrick Henry Reese, James M., O.S.F.S. Reaume, Michael R. Richards, Kent Harold Ripoll, Francis Rossiter, Francis S. Rubsys, Anthony Saldarini, Anthony, S.J. Schaub, Marilyn McNamara Schmitt, John J. Schoenberg, Martin, O.S.C. Scholer, David M. Schwarz, Robert J., S.J. Skehan, Patrick W. Sklba, Richard J. Smith, Alan, O.P. Steiner, Luke, O.S.B. Steinmueller, John F. Suriano, Thomas Swetnam, James, S.J. Suelzer, Sr. Alexa, S.P. Thompson, William A., S.J. Topel, L. John, S.J. Trautman, Donald Turner, Wayne Vawter, Bruce, C.M. Wahl, Thomas, O.S.B. Wilhelm, H. Joseph, S.M. Woods, Joseph, O.S.B. Wright, George E. Zalotay, Joseph Zehnle, Richard

THOMAS SURIANO
St. Francis Seminary, Milwaukee
Recording Secretary