

**REPORT OF THE THIRTY-FIFTH GENERAL  
MEETING OF THE CATHOLIC BIBLICAL  
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA**

The 35th General Meeting of the CBA was held in Los Angeles in conjunction with the 1972 international Congress of Learned Societies in the Field of Religion. The Congress, whose general theme was "Religion and the Humanizing of Man," was in session from Friday, Sept. 1, to Tuesday, Sept. 5, 1972. Congress General Sessions were held at 8:15-9:30 P.M. on Friday and 9:00-10:00 A.M. and 8:15-9:30 P.M. Saturday through Tuesday. Meetings of the CBA Executive Board and *CBQ* Editorial Board were held Friday afternoon.

**Sessions on Saturday, Sept. 2**

The morning session, from 10:30 A.M. to 12:00 Noon, consisted of two sections of two papers each. In Section A, Patrick W. Skehan discussed "The Psalms at Qumrân"; he presented transcriptions of a group of fragmentary Psalm manuscripts from Qumrân Cave 4, centering on Pss 104-5, 135-6, and 147, pointing out peculiarities of order and reading. He also discussed the liturgical grouping of Pss 135-6 and 145 as represented in 11 Q Pss<sup>a</sup>. Roderick A. F. MacKenzie, in keeping with the theme of the Congress, spoke on "The Humanization of Job." Job was presented as OT man at his best before the redemption in Christ; he experienced a fall and was thereby enabled to reach a level of human existence higher than was possible during his state of ethical and material felicity. The Book of Job shows the progressive enlightenment of the hero by his being brought low—"made like us in all things but sin."

In Section B, William G. Thompson presented "Historical Perspective in the Gospel of Matthew." By means of a structural, form-critical analysis of Mt 24:4b-14 he arrived at a past-present-future schema that underlies Mt's theology. The same schema, he suggested, underlies Mt 25:1-46; 28:16-20; 17:22-18:35; and 3:1-10:42. The other paper in Section B, "Redemption in the Apocalypse," was delivered by Elisabeth Fiorenza. She compared Apoc 1:5f. and 5:10 and drew conclusions concerning their provenance and teaching.

The afternoon session was devoted to the Presidential Address and its discussion. CBA President Raymond E. Brown, S.S., of Union Theological Seminary and Woodstock College, delivered an address on "Johannine Studies: The Present and the Future"; he developed the questions of current and predictable research into the place and date of origin, the stages of composition, and the influences on the work. At Brown's request the custom of not discussing the Presidential Address was set aside, and J. Louis Martyn presided over a panel composed of Peter Borgen, Rudolf Schnackenburg, Bruce Vawter, and Brown, which took up the points raised in the address. This was the best attended

society session of the Congress, then being 800 present. At 5:15 P.M. the Sunday liturgy was celebrated; CBA President Raymond E. Brown was principal concelebrant and Francis Martin delivered the homily.

### **Session on Sunday, Sept. 3**

There was no CBA morning session. In the afternoon Norbert Lohfink spoke on "The Deuteronomists and the Idea of Division of Powers." A panel discussion, chaired by Richard J. Clifford, followed; panelists were Aelred Cody, Frank M. Cross, Jr., Roland E. Murphy, and Lohfink.

### **Sessions on Monday, Sept. 4**

Two papers were delivered during the morning session. Quentin Quesnell discussed "Exegesis as a Human Science: Implications for Method"; he developed the thesis that exegesis will make its potential contribution to the humanizing of man only if it successfully develops a rigorous scientific method with public verification and offered specific recommendations. Carlo Martini gave a paper entitled "Methodological Problems in New Testament Textual Criticism" in which he discussed the changed role which various approaches (e.g., classification into families of texts) play in modern textual criticism.

The first part of the afternoon was given to a panel discussion, chaired by Brendan McGrath, on "Hermeneutical Method, Theological Method, and the Faith of the Believing Community"; the panelists were Luis Alonso-Schökel, Avery Dulles, Reginald H. Fuller, and Roger Lapointe. Fuller and Dulles raised the issue of interpretation and church authority; Lapointe opened the subject of philosophy in interpretation; and Alonso-Schökel treated the topic from the viewpoint of language. After the panelists had reacted to each other's presentations, questions from the floor further enlivened the discussion.

### **Business Meeting**

CBA President Raymond E. Brown chaired the annual Business Meeting. After the order of business had been adopted, the Treasurer's Report was given by James P. Clifton. Myles M. Bourke, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, reported the new policies of the Board concerning investment of assets.

Joseph Jensen, Executive Secretary, began his report with words of gratitude to President Brown for his generous work in the past year, to the Program Committee for the strong and balanced program they had arranged, and to John Grindel for strenuous service in the way of local arrangements. Details of the Congress budget were given, along with further details on CBA's financial situation. He announced that the Executive Board had approved the following grants: \$1,500.00 to Bruce Vawter, named Visiting Professor to the Pontifical Biblical Institute for the next academic year; \$1,800.00 to Carroll Stuhlmüller, named Visiting Professor to the Ecole Biblique for the next academic year; \$750.00 to the Studium Biblicum Franciscanum translation project; \$500.00 in

subsidy to the *Elenchus Bibliographicus of Biblica* (which grant is to be renewed for the next two years); \$750.00 to Robert J. Karris and David Scholer for their project of updating Bruce Metzger's *Index of Articles on the New Testament and the Early Church Published in Festschriften*; and \$100.00 to be sent to Paul Witte through the WFCBA for his Bible translation project among the Andoque indians in Colombia, S.A.

He reported that the Executive Board had voted to accept an invitation to hold the 36th General Meeting of the CBA, Aug. 20-23, 1973, at Cathedral College, Douglaston, N.Y., and invited those with papers or other services to contribute to contact a member of the Program Committee (Jerome D. Quinn, Chairman, Francis Martin, Thomas E. Crane, Alexa Suelzer, and William G. Thompson).

The Secretary's report touched briefly on the CSR. Earlier in the year Alexander A. Di Lella, because of a sabbatical and research that would take him abroad for most of the year, resigned as CBA delegate to the CSR, and President Brown appointed Roland E. Murphy in his place. He further reported that the Executive Board had voted to remain in the CSR, but only at the previously established level of financial support, since the increase asked was largely to cover the cost of services (subscription, billing, etc.) offered by the new CSR executive office, but which in fact are performed by the CBA national office; this was, in effect, a reaffirmation of the policy adopted by the Executive Board last year, "to cooperate in those joint ventures that fall within the stated purposes of the CSR, but to strictly oppose any attempt to draw CBA operations, whether on the business or administrative level, into a central office."

Francis S. Rossiter, *CBQ* Editor, reported that the number of articles submitted for publication was up from last year and that an increased percentage had come from CBA members. He also announced that the *CBQ* Editorial Board had elected George T. Montague to be Editor for three years. President Brown extended hearty thanks to Msgr. Rossiter for his years of dedicated editorship of the *CBQ*.

The report of the Chairman of the CBQMS Editorial Board was given by Patrick W. Skehan, who has replaced Joseph A. Fitzmyer in this position. Skehan praised the work Fitzmyer had done in establishing principles and guidelines for the series and in seeing the first two volumes through publication before having to retire under pressure of other work. Skehan also announced the retirement of Raymond E. Brown, because of other commitments, from the CBQMS Editorial Board and his replacement by Schuyler Brown; another new member is Thomas Barrosse. CBQMS II, Aloysius M. Ambrozic, *The Hidden Kingdom: A Redaction-Critical Study of the References to the Kingdom of God in Mark's Gospel*, is now available (see announcement elsewhere in this issue). Skehan further reported that a third study had been accepted and that others were under consideration.

Speaking for the Committee on Nominations, Carroll Stuhlmueller proposed the following candidates for office: *President*: Richard Kugelman, C.P.; *Vice-*

*President:* John E. Huesman, S.J.; *Executive Secretary:* Joseph Jensen, O.S.B.; *Treasurer:* James P. Clifton, C.F.X.; *Consultors, '72-'74:* Jerome D. Quinn and Alexa Suelzer, S.P.; *Member of Nominations Committee, '72-'76:* Arnold Tkacik, O.S.B.; *CBQ Associate Editors, '72-76:* William G. Thompson, S.J., Schuyler Brown, S.J., Addison G. Wright, S.S., Richard J. Clifford, S.J., and Anthony J. Saldarini, S.J. No further nominations were made and the slate of candidates was elected by the membership.

Speaking for the Committee on Credentials, Joseph Jensen announced that the Executive Board recommended that Henri Cazelles be made an honorary life member; he then proposed the following names:

*For Active Membership:* Rev. Peter D. Akpunonu, Dr. David E. Aune, Dr. Bernard F. Batto, Rev. Martin G. Cawley, O.C.S.O., Dr. Duane L. Christensen, Dr. John Joseph Collins, Rev. Kingsley E. Dalpadado, O.M.I., Mr. Eugene J. Fisher, Prof. Robert T. Fortna, Rev. Patrick Gallagher, O.F.M.Conv., Prof. John G. Gammie, Rev. Marcus A. Gigliotti, O.F.M.Conv., Dr. William J. Gochee, Dr. Manfred Görg, Rev. Geoffrey Graystone, S.M., Dr. David C. Greenwood, Rev. Michael D. Guinan, O.F.M., Dr. Paul D. Hanson, Rev. Msgr. J. Warren Holleran, Dr. William Klassen, Dr. James R. Lord, Rev. C. Stephen Mann, Prof. Arthur Graham Maxwell, Prof. John A. Melloh, Dr. George E. Mendenhall, Prof. Peter Richardson, Dr. J. Coert Rylaarsdam, Rev. Anthony J. Saldarini, S.J., Prof. Samuel Sandmel, Prof. Martin H. Scharlemann, Rev. Patrick J. Sena, Rev. A. Michael Smith, S.M., Dr. Dorothy Irvin Thompson, Rev. Philip A. Van Linden, C.M., Dr. Lionel A. Whiston, Jr., Prof. Donald H. Wimmer, Dr. Robert B. Wright.

*For Associate Membership:* Sr. Elizabeth Bellefontaine, S.C., Rev. Francis T. Danielson, C.S.S.R., Prof. James W. Dunkly, Rev. Richard W. Ferris, Sr. Jeanne M. Gamache, S.S.J., Sr. Vera E. Harvey, S.C., Rev. James E. Healy, Rev. John C. Kesterson, S.S.C.C., Rev. Robert Labella, Prof. Hubert D. Maultsby, Sr. Mary Sylvia Maurer, C.S.C., Miss Pamela J. Milne, Mr. Francis J. Morrow, Jr., Mr. Brian Robert Moore, Bro. William J. Mueller, F.S.C., Rev. Gary L. Riebe, S.V.D., Rev. James R. Schaefer, Rev. Stephen K. Sherwood, C.M.F., Rev. Alphonse P. Spilly, C.P.P.S., Rev. William A. Varvaro, Dr. Urban C. von Wahlde, Mr. Francis D. Weinert, Bro. John R. Wilcox, F.M.S., Rev. Robert A. Wild, S.J., Rev. Joseph Woods, O.S.B., Mr. Arthur E. Zannoni. Unanimous acceptance of the candidates was given.

The report of the Delegates to the CSR was given by George W. MacRae. He gave further details concerning the establishment of a CSR executive office at Waterloo Lutheran University in Ontario and the accomplishments of the CSR, pointing in particular to the Report of the CSR Task Force on Scholarly Communication and Publication which was distributed at the Congress, and calling for continued evaluation of CBA's relationship to the CSR.

President Brown began the "Presidential Remarks" indicated for this point in the meeting by noting that the addition or promotion of 62 new members is a sign that the CBA is "alive and well" and that there continues to be a

need for a society such as ours. He spoke of the relative tranquillity enjoyed in recent years, but noted signs that suggest new attacks on sound biblical scholarship by reactionaries who place themselves above the hierarchy to sit in judgment on all; he encouraged the membership to make their presence and scholarship felt as widely as possible.

The meeting then proceeded to new business. It was moved and seconded that the practice be adopted, occasionally followed in the past, of the Vice President succeeding to President, the arrangement to apply to those elected in 1973 and thereafter and hence not to affect the incumbents nor those elected this year. After a brief discussion the motion was passed unanimously. The next order of business was consideration of the following previously proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-laws:

Art. IV, 2: add "the Chairman of the *Catholic Biblical Quarterly—Monograph Series* (CBQMS) Editorial Board"

Art. V: renumber Sec. 6 as Sec. 7 and insert as new Sec. 6: "The duties of the Chairman of the CBQMS Editorial Board shall be:

- a) To preside at meetings of the CBQMS Editorial Board;
- b) To accept, after consultation with members of the board, manuscripts for the CBQMS and to prepare them for publication."

Art. VI: renumber Sec. 2 as Sec. 3 and insert as new Sec. 2: "Members of the CBQMS Editorial Board shall be duly elected as specified in the By-laws; their function shall be to assist the Chairman of the board."

Renumber By-laws 16-22 and add as new By-law 16: "New members of the CBQMS Editorial Board shall be elected, as needed, by the active members in general meeting."

These amendments to the Constitution and By-laws were unanimously approved.

Brendan McGrath, Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions offered the following resolution:

Be it resolved by the Catholic Biblical Association of America, gathered for its Thirty-Fifth General Meeting, held in conjunction with the 1972 International Congress of Learned Societies in the Field of Religion, in the City of Los Angeles, California, September 4, 1972

1. That the Association extend its cordial thanks to the members of the Program Committee for their work in arranging a stimulating and profitable program, and also to all who by their various contributions have made that same program a success;
2. That the Association extend its hearty congratulations to its honorary life member, the Reverend Stanislaus Lyonnet, S.J., on his recent appointment as a Consultor to the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith;
3. That the Association officially express its pleasure and gratification at the recent appointment of four of its members to the Pontifical Biblical Commission, namely: The Reverend Raymond E. Brown, S.S., President of the Association; The Reverend David M. Stanley, S.J., Member of the Board

of Trustees; The Reverend Stanislaus Lyonnet, S.J., Honorary Life Member; and The Reverend Pierre Benoit, O.P., Honorary Life Member. It was approved unanimously.

The business having been completed, the meeting was adjourned.

#### **Session on Tuesday, Sept. 5**

The morning session featured two papers. Roger LeDéaut presented a paper, "The Relevance of Jewish Tradition for Christian Hermeneutics," in which he gave examples from the Midrashim to show that the NT can be even more accurately understood in this light than in that of the OT. Gerald G. O'Collins spoke on "The Making of Resurrection Faith." His treatment included a survey of various approaches to the reality and meaning of the Resurrection, concluding with the Resurrection as basis of hope.

This was the last CBA session, but the Congress did not conclude until the evening. The Congress included fourteen pages delivered at General Sessions. In addition to these there were 357 papers, presentations, or panel discussions, including the thirteen items of the CBA program described above.

REV. THOMAS C. PETRONEK  
*St. John Vianney Seminary, Bloomingdale, O.*  
*Recording Secretary*