

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

The 38th General Meeting of the Catholic Biblical Association of America was hosted jointly by the Iliff School of Theology and St. Thomas Seminary, Denver, Colorado. The meeting was in session from Monday, August 18, to Thursday, August 21, 1975. Rev. S. Jameson Jones, Jr., President of the Iliff School of Theology, and Rev. Frank H. Agnew, C.M., Rector of St. Thomas Seminary, both expressed cordial words of welcome to the CBA. Rev. Msgr. Francis S. Rossiter delivered the Presidential Address, "Forty Years Less One: An Historical Sketch of the Catholic Biblical Association (1936-1975)." In his address Msgr. Rossiter concerned himself with the genesis and growth of the Catholic Biblical Association. He spoke of the contributions that the CBA has made both to biblical scholarship and to the Church at large. He also traced the origin and development of the publications of the CBA, especially the *Catholic Biblical Quarterly*, and the now completed *New American Bible*, and noted their ecumenical dimensions. In conclusion he urged the members of the CBA to continue the high standard of work which has come to be the hallmark of the association.

Sessions on Tuesday, August 19

Four Task Forces and six Continuing Seminars met simultaneously each day from 9:00-10:45 A.M. Joseph A. Comber, C.F.X., was the moderator of the first Task Force, "Composition of the Gospel of Matthew"; other members of the Core Group were Lamar Cope, Daniel J. Harrington, S.J., Jack Dean Kingsbury, John P. Meier, James M. Reese, O.S.F.S., Donald Senior, C.P., and William G. Thompson, S.J. This Task Force discussed the papers of four of its members: "Jesus and the Jews in Mt 11 and 12" (Comber); "John, Jesus and Herod: The Case of the Confusing Conjunction" (Cope); "The Death of Jesus and the Resurrection of the Holy Ones (Mt 27:51-53)" (Senior); and "The Jewish-Christian Mission to Israel: A Study of Mt 9:35-10:42" (Thompson). The second Task Force, moderated by Richard J. Clifford, S.J., was concerned with "Apocalyptic Tradition"; other members of the Core Group were Adela Yarbro Collins, John J. Collins, John R. Donahue, S.J., Joseph Jensen, O.S.B., Elisabeth Schüssler Fiorenza, Pheme Perkins, Kent H. Richards, Robert B. Wright, and Anthony J. Saldarini, S.J. Three papers were presented and discussed by members of this Task Force: "John and Daniel: The Book of Revelation in the Light of Jewish Apocalyptic" (J. J. Collins); "The Composition of the Book of Revelation" (Fiorenza); and "The Political Perspective of the Apocalypse of John" (A. Y. Collins). The subject of the third Task Force was "Church Order and Ministry" and its moderator was John H. Elliott; the other members of the Core Group were Frederick W. Danker, Robert J. Karris, O.F.M., Richard Kugelman, C.P., and Thomas J. Ryan. Two papers were presented by members of this Task Force: "Benefactor-Recipient Terminology in 2 Peter"

(Danker); and "The Church as *oikos paroikōn* in 1 Peter—A Sociological Perspective" (Elliott). Oral reports were given by Thomas J. Ryan and Robert J. Karris, O.F.M. The fourth Task Force dealt with "Healing in the New Testament," and its moderator was Francis Martin; other members of the Core Group were Paul J. Achtemeier, Dennis Hamm, S.J., Anitra Bingham Kolenkow, Bruce J. Malina, and George T. Montague, S.M. Four papers were presented by members of this Task Force: "Reflections on John's Adaptation of Miracle Stories: Jn 5 and 9" (Achtemeier); "The Cultural Paradigm Implied in the New Testament Healing Paradigms" and "Limited Good and the Social World of Early Christianity" (Malina); "Healing Controversy Structure in Jn 5" (Kolenkow); "Jn 5 and Acts 3-4: One Cluster, Two Expressions?" (Hamm).

The Continuing Seminars and their respective leaders were: Walter R. Wifall, "Seminar on the Pentateuch: A Study of E"; Philip J. King, "New Developments in Psalms Research"; Mitchell J. Dahood, S.J., "The Formal Devices of Hebrew Poetry"; Robert J. Daly, S.J., "New Testament Ethics"; Francis J. Fallon, "Gnosticism: The Gospel of Thomas and the New Testament"; and Bernard B. Scott, "Structuralism: The Program of A. J. Greimas."

The morning concluded with two papers presented in simultaneous sessions: Richard J. Clifford, S.J., "A New Look at Daniel 10-12"; and Walter R. Wifall, "The Status of 'Man' as Resurrection."

The Most Reverend James V. Casey, Archbishop of Denver, was the principal concelebrant and homilist at the midday liturgy. On his own behalf and on behalf of the American bishops, Archbishop Casey thanked the members of the CBA for the work that they are doing and encouraged them to continue their efforts, even in the face of misplaced criticism.

The afternoon consisted of four sessions of Research Reports. In these sessions the following topics were discussed: Conrad E. L'Heureux, "El and Yahweh: *Status Quaestionis*"; Joseph Zalotay, "Foxes have Holes...—Mt 8:20: Its *Formgeschichte* and Christology"; Mitchell J. Dahood, S.J., "Isa 23:8-9 and UT, 128 IV 17-18"; Mary Ann Michele Shay, B.V.M., "Our Heritage: Women in Scripture"; Urban C. von Wahlde, "Literary Criteria for Some Redactional Inserts in the Fourth Gospel"; J. Massyngberde Ford, "And He Would Not Allow Anyone to Carry Anything Through the Temple (Mk 11:16)"; James M. Reese, O.S.F.S., "The Distribution of the Particle *kai gar* in the New Testament"; Sonya A. Quitslund, "Women as Covenant Partners in the Period of the Judges: Archeological Evidence and Significance for Modern Israeli Women"; Joseph Blenkinsopp, "The Structure of P"; L. John Topel, S.J., "Didactic Metaphors in the Parables of Jesus"; Imre Mihalik, "The Meaning of *lebad* in Ps 51:6"; H. Edward Everding and Dana W. Wilbanks, "The Bible and Christian Ethics"; David Bossman, O.F.M., "Babylonian Judaism: Perspectives on Canonical Criticism"; Peter J. Kearney, "The Apparition to 500 Brothers (I Cor 15:6)"; Eugene C. Ulrich, "4QSam^a: The *Vortage* of Josephus for 2 Sam 6"

In the evening General Session Norman Perrin of the University of Chicago delivered a paper entitled "Jesus and the Theology of the New Testament." The paper's concern was to attempt a genuinely post-Bultmannian approach to the theology of the New Testament, and it sought the necessary insights in recent work on the theology of the

synoptic evangelists. Perrin argued that the key to the theological unity of the NT was the symbolic figure of Jesus, the Jesus Christ of Christian experience rather than the historical Jesus, as this figure functioned within the various theological systems developed in the NT. His presentation was followed by a lively debate.

Sessions on Wednesday, August 20

The morning was occupied with the Task Forces and Continuing Seminars, as on the previous day, and with two papers given in simultaneous sessions: Philip J. King, "The Past, Present, and Future of American Archeology in the Near East"; and PHEME PERKINS, "The Johannine Paraclete Sayings—Redaction or Reinterpretation?"

Patrick W. Skehan was the principal concelebrant and homilist at the midday liturgy.

In a general afternoon session, Daniel J. Harrington, S.J., of the Weston School of Theology delivered a paper entitled: "Matthean Studies Since Joachim Rohde." He presented a survey of redaction-critical study on Matthew during the last ten years according to this pattern: method of composition (sources, structure), community (problems, locale, relation to Judaism, groups, attitude toward Church leaders, Kingdom), and theology (history, Christology, OT quotations, the Law).

The second part of the afternoon was taken up by the annual Business Meeting. CBA President Francis S. Rossiter chaired the meeting. In the absence of James P. Clifton, C.F.X., the Treasurer's report was given by Joseph Jensen, O.S.B. The report of the Board of Trustees was given by its chairman, Myles M. Bourke.

The Executive Secretary, Joseph Jensen, O.S.B., gave the following report. (1) The Executive Board of the CBA voted the following grants: (a) In response to a request from the Bishops' Committee for Ecumenical Affairs, a \$1,000.00 grant was made to help support a study on "Mary in the New Testament." This would be an ecumenical study carried out very much like the one on "Peter in the New Testament" and involving many of the same scholars. As in the case of the previous study, this one is also to issue in a publication. Lutheran groups have already agreed to contribute \$1,000.00 of the \$2,000.00 needed to cover expenses. (b) A renewal of the \$750.00 grant to the Studium Biblicum Franciscanum translation project. This grant will go toward the education of Japanese Franciscan students at the Pontifical Biblical Institute. (c) A \$1,000.00 grant to help in the renovation of the Pontifical Biblical Institute's library. (d) A tithe of membership dues for famine relief (\$1,220.00). (2) Jensen expressed regret that several issues of the *CBQ* in the past year had been late in appearing and spoke of steps to be taken to correct the problem. (3) The members of the CBA permanent committee for liaison with the U.S. Bishops, established by the Executive Board last year, were named: Joseph Jensen, O.S.B. (chairman), Myles M. Bourke, Jerome D. Quinn, Richard J. Sklba, and Alexa Suelzer, S.P. In conjunction with the other members of the Joint Committee of Catholic Learned Societies, the CBA was asked to take part in background discussions for the Bishops' forthcoming pastoral letter on moral values. In a series of meetings on June 23-25, 1975, in Washington, D.C., with the JCCLS and a committee of Bishops, Jerome D. Quinn, Daniel J. Harrington, S.J., and Joseph Jensen, O.S.B., contributed position papers. (4) The Executive Board of the CBA has

established a Projects Committee which will be a subcommittee of the Executive Board. The purpose of this committee is to evaluate the operations and the needs of the CBA. It will also suggest to the Executive Board projects which should be undertaken by the CBA. The convener of this committee is Richard J. Sklba; ten other members are yet to be named. (5) Next year's CBA Meeting is to be held in Pittsburgh, August 23-26, at Duquesne University.

In appreciation of his fine scholarship, Patrick W. Skehan was presented by President Rossiter with a copy of the October 1974 *CBQ Festschrift* volume dedicated to him and received a standing ovation from the membership.

CBQ Editor George Montague, S.M., reported that in 1975 forty-one articles had been received, of which fourteen were accepted for publication and ten articles were still under review. This represents a slight decrease from last year. In order to clear up a backlog, the articles in the 1974 issues and the January and April 1975 issues were expanded from 75 to 100 pages. Since the backlog has now been cleared up and since the possibility of publication within less than a year is now great, members are encouraged to contribute. The number of reviews published already or to be published during 1975 is 189. This is approximately the same as 1973 (190) and 1974 (190). New book reviewers are solicited, particularly if they can control German, and especially in certain areas such as Rabbinic studies. Thanks were extended to outgoing Associate Editors Neil J. McEleney, C.S.P., Kevin O'Connell, S.J., and James M. Reese, O.S.F.S. In the name of the *CBQ* Editorial Staff Montague announced that, beginning with the January 1976 issue of the *CBQ*, Richard J. Clifford, S.J. would be the new editor of the *CBQ*. At this point, in the name of all of the members of the CBA, Msgr. Rossiter expressed the appreciation and thanks of the whole Association to George Montague for his fine work as editor of the *CBQ* over the past three years. Finally, George Montague read a statement drafted by an *ad hoc* sub-committee of the *CBQ* Editorial Staff:

Recognizing that, in this International Women's Year, Christians are reassessing their religious language to avoid linguistic sexism, which implies divinely ordained superiority of males, the editorial board strongly urges contributors to make every attempt to submit materials in non-sexist language. The board is seeking more precise guidelines on this matter and will discuss examples at our next meeting. We would appreciate any suggestions for such guidelines, phrasing, etc., from our readers.

J. Massyngberde Ford, on behalf of the Committee on Nominations, presented the following slate: *President*: Alexander A. Di Lella, O.F.M.; *Vice-President*: James A. Fischer, C.M.; *Executive Secretary*: Joseph Jensen, O.S.B.; *Treasurer*: James P. Clifton, C.F.X.; *CBQMS Editorial Board*: John H. Elliott and John L. McKenzie; *Consultors '75-'77*: Paul J. Achtemeier and Virgil Cordano, O.F.M.; *Associate Editors*: John S. Kselman, S.S., George Montague, S.M., William H. Irwin, C.S.B., and Patrick W. Skehan; *Committee on Nominations, '75-'79*: Martin Hopkins, O.P.; *Delegate to CSR*: John P. Meier (for calendar years 1976-78).

Alexander A. Di Lella, O.F.M., on behalf of the Committee on Credentials, proposed the following candidates:

For Active Membership:

Dr. Bernhard W. Anderson, Rev. Vincent P. Branick, S.M., Dr. Walter E. Brooks,

Rev. John P. Burchill, O.P., Dr. Charles E. Carlston, Rev. Anthony R. Ceresko, O.S.F.S., Bro. Joseph A. Comber, C.F.X., Dr. Michael D. Coogan, Rev. Michael Duggan, Rev. Dr. Sarah A. Edwards, Dr. Henry E. Everding, Rev. Virgil R. Fry, Prof. Dr. Albert Fuchs, Dr. Charles M. Kempton-Hewitt, Dr. Charles D. Isbell, Prof. Richard L. Jeske, Bro. Ansgar L. Kristensen, O.S.B., Rev. Dr. Thomas R. Longstaff, Dr. Robert P. Mahoney, Sister Sylvia Maurer, C.S.C., Rev. Joseph A. Mindling, O.F.M.Cap., Rev. Gerald R. Morris, Dr. Francis J. Morrow, Rev. Dr. George W. E. Nickelsburg, Jr., Rev. John F. O'Grady, Rev. Jerome T. Walsh.

For Associate Membership:

Rev. Henry S. Benjamin, Ms. Barbara Ann Cullom, Rev. Thomas L. Curley, C.S.S.R., Bro. Paul J. Feeney, C.F.X., Rev. Benjamin Fiore, S.J., Rev. Shane J. Fitzgerald, S.V.D., Rev. Thomas E. Fox, O.F.M., Rev. Mr. Michael W. Gallagher, S.J., Prof. Robert G. Golden, Dr. John A. Hollar, Mr. Edward J. Horan, Rev. Lawrence L. Hummer, Sister Suzanne M. Kearney, C.S.J., Mr. John S. Kloppenborg, Mr. Stanley P. Lawson, Sister Betty Jane Lillie, S.C., Rev. Thomas P. McCreesh, O.P., Sister Rea McDonnell, S.S.N.D., Rev. Henry J. Marcinek, Rev. Dennis R. Marin, Mr. Stephen M. O'Brien, Mr. Joon S. Park, Mrs. Sang Chang Park, Rev. William J. Parker, C.S.S.R., Miss Catherine A. Romanik, Sister Eileen M. Schuller, O.S.U., Sister Mary Gregory Smith, S.S.N.D., Rev. Edwin E. Staudt, III, Rev. Philip S. Timko, O.S.B., Rev. Thomas H. Tobin, S.J.

Acceptance of these candidates was voted unanimously.

As CSR delegate Joseph Jensen described the meetings and discussions which led to the "Statement of Agreement" of the "Committee of Fifteen" (CSR *Bulletin*, June, 1975, pp. 1f.) and spoke of the impact the withdrawal of AAR-SBL services was likely to have on the CSR Executive Office. He announced that the first issue of the *Religious Studies Review*, published by the CSR and edited by Walter Harrelson, would be sent gratis to members of CSR societies; subscriptions will cost \$6.00 for members, \$10.00 for non-members and institutions. TOIL (*Teaching Opportunities Information Listing*) now accepts individual listings (in addition to institutional listings) for \$15.00 per year, which includes subscription to TOIL.

Brendan McGrath, O.S.B., on behalf of the Committee on Resolutions, proposed a resolution thanking Archbishop James V. Casey for his celebration of the Eucharistic Liturgy and his warm words of encouragement; the President and faculty of the Iliff School of Theology and the Rector and faculty of St. Thomas Seminary for their generous hospitality; the Committee on Local Arrangements for their generous efforts in seeing to the needs of their guests; and all who participated in the successful implementation of the CBA meeting. A second resolution proposed: That, whereas in this International Women's Year all Christians are called on to re-affirm and wherever possible implement the principles of complete equality of all the children of God as clearly set forth in his Holy Word, be it resolved that the Catholic Biblical Association of America strongly re-affirm its whole-hearted and unreserved acceptance of the full implications of the Christian message, particularly as it is set forth by the Apostle in his Letter to the Galatians: "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus" (Gal 3:28). A third resolution expressed CBA gratitude and indebtedness to George Montague, S.M., for his excellent work in

maintaining and even raising the high quality of the *CBQ*. These resolutions passed unanimously.

The business having been concluded, the meeting was adjourned.

In the evening General Session, Kent Harold Richards, of the Iliff School of Theology, delivered a paper entitled: "New Frontiers: A Process Hermeneutic." This paper consisted of two major parts: (1) a report on the activities of those engaged in developing the relationship between Process Philosophy and Biblical Studies; and (2) some reflections on the possible advantages of using process categories in developing a hermeneutic. The reporting aspect of the paper indicated some of the suggestions made thus far in articles and dissertations. The reflection portion investigated how process categories might be beneficial in developing an understanding of hope in the Old Testament.

Sessions on Thursday, August 21

The Task Forces and Continuing Seminars held their concluding meetings. In the last session of the morning two papers were delivered: Wilhelm Wuellner, "Paul's Rhetoric of Argumentation: A Contribution to the Donfried-Karris Debate"; and Imre Mihalik, "Basic Dilemmas in Today's Old Testament Research." The response to the second paper was given by Eugene H. Maly.

The meeting formally closed with the midday Eucharistic liturgy; Michael Mulhall, O. Carm., was the principal concelebrant and homilist.

CBA members and invited guests in attendance were:

Achtemeier, Paul J.	Collins, John J.
Agnew, Francis H., C.M.	Comber, Joseph A., C.F.X.
Bailey, Joseph G.	Cope, Lamar
Baran, Benjamin	Corcoran, Cassian, O.F.M.
Barbieri, Amedeo	Cordano, Virgil, O.F.M.
Bellet, Paulinus, O.S.B.	Craghan, John F., C. SS. R.
Bergant, Dianne, C.S.A.	Crowley, Edward
Bernas, Casimir, O.C.S.O.	Cunningham, James J., O.P.
Blenkinsopp, Joseph	Dahood, Mitchell, S.J.
Bossmann, David, O.F.M.	Daly, Robert J., S.J.
Bourke, Myles M.	Danker, Frederick W.
Bowes, Paula J.	Dawes, Dorothy M., O.P.
Brummel, Thomas R., C.M.F.	Dietlein, Damian, O.S.B.
Bucher, Otto, O.F.M. Cap.	Di Lella, Alexander A., O.F.M.
Burchill, John P., O.P.	Donahue, John R., S.J.
Burke, John, O.P.	Elliott, John H.
Bushinski, Leonard, C. SS. P.	Everding, H. Edward, Jr.
Ceresko, Anthony R., O.S.F.S.	Fallon, Francis T.
Ciuba, Edward J.	Fischer, James A., C.M.
Clifford, Richard J., S.J.	Fitzgerald, Aloysius, F.S.C.
Cody, Aelred, O.S.B.	Fiorenza, Elisabeth S.
Collins, Adela Y.	Ford, Dennis

- Ford, J. Massyngberde
 Forestell, J. T., C.S.B.
 Forshey, Harold O.
 Gallagher, Michael W., S.J.
 Gallagher, Patrick, O.F.M.Conv.
 Gigliotti, Marcus, O.F.M.Conv.
 Godlewski, Albert A.
 Graycar, Paul M.
 Grindel, John, C.M.
 Hamm, Dennis, S.J.
 Harrington, Daniel J., S.J.
 Heemrood, Johannes A., O.M.I.
 Heidt, William, O.S.B.
 Heupler, Charles G., O.F.M.Cap.
 Hollar, John A.
 Hopkins, Martin K., O.P.
 Irwin, William H., C.S.B.
 Jensen, Joseph, O.S.B.
 Karris, Robert J., O.F.M.
 Kearney, Peter J.
 Keating, John R., S.J.
 Keegan, Terence J., O.P.
 Kempton-Hewitt, Charles M.
 Kenik, Helen Ann, O.P.
 Kilgallen, John J., S.J.
 King, Philip
 Kingsbury, Jack Dean
 Kolenkow, Anita B.
 Kraus, Damien M., O.S.B.
 Kugelman, Richard, C.P.
 Lane, M. Kathleen
 Laubach, Barnabas, O.S.B.
 La Verdiere, Eugene, S.S.S.
 Lazor, Bernard A., O.S.A.
 L'Heureux, Conrad
 Malina, Bruce J.
 Mallaghan, Thomas P., C.M.
 Maly, Eugene H.
 Martin, Francis
 Martinez, Ernest R., S.J.
 McCreesh, Thomas P., O.P.
 McDonnell, John J., C.M.
 McGovern, John, M.M.
 McGrath, Brendan, O.S.B.
 McHatten, Mary Timothy, O.P.
 Meier, John P.
 Mihalik, Imre
 Miles, Andrew, O.S.B.
 Miller, Charles H., S.M.
 Miller, Fred
 Mindling, Joseph A., O.F.M.Cap.
 Miscall, Peter D.
 Montague, George T., S.M.
 Moore, C. Thomas, O.P.
 Morris, Gerald R.
 Moyer, James C.
 Mulhall, Michael, O. Carm.
 Nickels, Peter H., O.F.M.Conv.
 Nickelsburg, George W. E., Jr.
 Nickle, Keith F.
 O'Donnell, Patrick J., C.M.
 O'Grady, John F.
 Orr, Judith
 O'Rourke, John J.
 Parker, William J., C.S.S.R.
 Peil, Daniel
 Perkins, PHEME
 Perrin, Norman
 Petronek, Thomas C.
 Pierce, Justin A., S.D.S.
 Polan, Stanley M.
 Price, Barry
 Quesnell, Quentin
 Quinn, Jerome D.
 Quitslund, Sonya
 Reardon, Patrick H.
 Reese, James M., O.S.F.S.
 Richards, Kent H.
 Riehl, Claudia, O.S.B.
 Rossiter, Francis S.
 Roth, W. M.
 Rubsys, Anthony L.
 Ryan, Thomas
 Rybolt, John E., C.M.
 Saldarini, Anthony J., S.J.
 Scott, Bernard B.
 Sena, Patrick J., C.P.P.S.
 Senior, Donald P., C.P.

Shay, M. Ann Michele, B.V.M.
Sheridan, J. Mark, O.S.B.
Sherwood, Stephen K., C.M.F.
Skehan, Patrick W.
Skiba, Richard J.
Sloyan, Gerard S.
Sorensen, Howard J., O.M.I.
Suriano, Thomas M.
Tambasco, Anthony, S.M.M.
Theunissen, Edward J., O.S.B.
Thompson, William G., S.J.
Tiede, David L.
Tobin, Thomas H., S.J.
Topel, L. John, S.J.

Turner, Wayne A.
Tyms, Cronan R., O.S.B.
Ulrich, Eugene C.
Vancik, Vladimir G.
VanLinden, Philip A., C.M.
Vawter, Bruce, C.M.
Von Wahlde, Urban C.
Waldron, Mary
Weis, Earl A., S.J.
Wifall, Walter R.
Wright, Robert B.
Wuellner, Wilhelm
Zalotay, Joseph

THOMAS H. TOBIN, S.J.
Harvard University
Recording Secretary