

Report of the Forty-First General Meeting of the Catholic Biblical Association of America

The University of San Francisco provided the setting for the 41st General Meeting of the Catholic Biblical Association from Monday, Aug. 21, to Thursday, Aug. 24, 1978, in San Francisco, California. Rev. George T. Montague, S.M., delivered his Presidential Address, "Hermeneutics and the Teaching of Scripture," to open the meeting on Monday evening.

Sessions on Tuesday, August 22

Six Task Forces and five Continuing Seminars met simultaneously each day from 9:00-10:45 A.M. The Task Forces and their moderators included: "Early Pentateuchal Sources" (John A. Grindel, C.M.); "Healing in the New Testament" (Francis Martin); "Hebrew Poetry" (Conrad E. L'Heureux); "Luke-Acts" (Robert F. O'Toole, S.J.); "New Testament Ethics: Method and Content" (Robert J. Daly, S.J.); "Role of Women in Early Christianity" (Richard J. Sklba). The Continuing Seminars and their respective leaders discussed: "Eblaite, Canaanite, and Hebrew" (Mitchell J. Dahood, S.J.); "Hebrew Figures of Speech and the Interpretation of Selected Texts from Isaiah 24-35" (William H. Irwin, C.S.B.); "Tannaite Rabbinic Theology and its Influence on the Authors of the New Testament" (Irvin M. Arkin); "Rhetorical Criticism in the Old Testament" (Martin Kessler); "The Matthean Apocalypse (Matthew 24-25)" (Schuyler Brown, S.J.).

Two simultaneous sessions concluded the morning's activities. Richard J. Clifford, S.J., delivered a paper entitled "Psalm 89: Creation and Covenant,"

while Frederick W. Danker spoke on "The Autobiography of Israel According to Paul."

Most Reverend Pierre DuMaine, Auxiliary Bishop of San Francisco, was the principal concelebrant and homilist for the Eucharistic Liturgy celebrated in St. Ignatius Church.

During the four sessions of Research Reports in the afternoon, members presented the following papers: Benedict Viviano, O.P., "Where Was the Gospel According to Matthew Written?"; Thomas W. Leahy, S.J., "Rom 5:6-11 in the Light of Biblical and Rabbinic Background"; Helen Kenik, O.P., "The Deuteronomistic Narrative Technique in the Dream of Solomon, 1 Kgs 3:4-15"; Lawrence Boadt, C.S.P., "Is There a Rhetorical Poetic-Prose in Prophetic Literature?"; James M. Reese, O.S.F.S., "Can Paul Ricoeur's Method Contribute to Interpreting the Book of Wisdom?"; Charles H. Talbert, "The Contribution of Greco-Roman Biographies to an Understanding of Luke 1:5-4:15"; Lawrence Frizzell, "The Community According to the Qumran Temple Scroll"; Louis T. Brodie, O.P., "The Oppressed and Their Prophet: Is Exod 1:1-6:13 a Creative Rewriting of Amos?"; Walter R. Wifall, Jr., "Israel's Prophets: Viziers of the King"; Alexander A. Di Lella, O.F.M., "The Deuteronomistic Background of the Farewell Discourse in Tob 14:3-11"; John F. O'Grady, "Johannine Individualism"; Eugene C. Ulrich, "The Edition and Textual Significance of the Third Samuel Scroll from Qumran: 4QSam^c"; Mitchell J. Dahood, S.J., "Does Third Masculine Taqtul Exist in Hebrew? Ebla Says 'Yes'"; John J. Schmitt, "Two Passages in Isaiah Which Allude to the Zion Drama: Isa 5:26-29; 10:28-33"; Bruce Vawter, C.M., "Prov 8:22: Wisdom and Creation"; Joseph A. Grassi, "The Gospel Itself as Social Ethic: An Outline and an Example (Mark 6:37; Matt 14:16; Luke 9:13)"; Bruce J. Malina, "Social World Research: The Case of Ignatius of Antioch"; Philip J. King, "The Current Scene in Near Eastern Archaeology"; Joseph Jensen, O.S.B., "The Age of Immanuel (Isa 7:15)"; Thomas A. Hoffman, S.J., "Whatever Became of Inspiration? An Essay at Reviving the Discussion."

The general session in the evening heard a presentation from Patrick W. Skehan on "Structures in Poems on Wisdom: Proverbs 8 and Sirach 24."

Sessions on Wednesday, August 23

The first part of the morning saw a continuation of the work in the Task Forces and Continuing Seminars. Then followed two papers given in simultaneous sessions: Sean E. McEvenue, "Brevard Childs Revisited: Reflections on Revelation and Scholarship"; and Neil J. McEleney, C.S.P., "Principles of the Sermon on the Mount."

At Midday, Rev. Carroll Stuhlmueller, C.P., was principal concelebrant for the Eucharistic Liturgy in the chapel of Xavier Hall. Elisabeth Schüssler Fiorenza gave the homily.

A general session in the afternoon listened to the panel discussion on "The CTSA Report, *Human Sexuality: Biblical Perspectives*," moderated by Eugene H. Maly. Panelists included Joseph Jensen, O.S.B., Francis X. Meehan, John Meier, and Carroll Stuhlmueller, C.P.

After a short break, CBA President George Montague, S.M., called to order the annual Business Meeting. Msgr. Patrick Skehan presented the Treasurer's report. Then followed the report of the Executive Secretary, Joseph Jensen.

He announced Executive Board action in the following areas: (1) Grants: stipends and travel money for our two Visiting Professors for the coming academic year (John Topel, S.J., to the P.B.I. and Kathleen McVey to the Ecole Biblique); \$1,000.00 to Bernardin Schneider for the Studium Biblicum Franciscanum translation project; \$1,000.00 as a subvention for the publication of Alexander A. Di Lella's *The Old Testament in Syriac according to the Peshitta Version* (Leiden, Brill); \$8,000-10,000 for the continued participation of CBA in the ASOR Syrian Consortium for future excavation, conditional on a decision of ASOR to proceed and on a positive evaluation by a CBA panel of a recommendation to excavate based on the micro-survey soon to be undertaken; \$1,500.00 a year for three years for the support of *Elenchus Bibliographicus Biblicus*; and a tithe of membership dues for famine relief (\$1,380.00). (2) Agreed to a request from CSR for a dues increase from \$1.50 to \$2.00 per member. (3) Requested the Task Force on the Role of Women in Early Christianity to produce a statement concerning the teaching of Scripture on women and ministry, it being the intention of the Executive Board to circulate the statement, emended if necessary, to the members in advance of the next meeting and to submit it to the membership at the meeting for adoption as a statement of the CBA; agreed on tentative plans to publish under CBA auspices articles from this Task Force that are acceptable to a duly constituted editorial board and to the Executive Board. (4) Voted to respond favorably to an SBL invitation to participate in its centennial celebration in 1980; our participation will take the form of a resolution of congratulations and an offer to sponsor a session at the SBL meeting—probably a symposium or panel. Jensen also announced that next year's meeting would be held at Boston College, Aug. 20-23; and he took the occasion to ask the help of the membership in finding suitable institutions willing to host meetings in future years. And he reported on the activities of the Joint Committee of Catholic Learned Societies, in particular on the colloquium of bishops and scholars on "Scholarship in the Church," to be held Oct. 19-21 on the topic "Authority and knowledge." A second issue of the *JCCLS Newsletter* will be sent to our members in the near future.

Richard J. Clifford, S.J., spoke as the Editor of *CBQ*. The number of articles submitted for publication in 1978 is almost the same as last year: 78 in 1977 and 71 as of Aug. 2, 1978. In 1977, the editorial board accepted 29 and rejected 49. So far this year, 20 have been accepted, 40 rejected, and 11 are still under consideration. Lawrence Boadt, C.S.P., has taken over as the new Publishing Editor. Msgr. Francis W. Rossiter, the former Publishing Editor, was honored at a dinner in Boston on April 21 and given a plaque in recognition of his 25 years of generous service in that office. 1978 saw a redesign of the journal's format, with a new cover and a compatibility of the type faces. Clifford announced his resignation as of August 1979; a search committee has been formed to select a new General Editor to replace him.

Bruce Vawter reported as Chairperson of the CBQMS Editorial Board and

Editor of *OTA*. Six volumes of the Monograph Series have appeared, two are in press, and a further two have been accepted for publication. The first two issues of *OTA* have appeared, approximately on schedule. The response to the new journal has been gratifying, particularly in the number of subscriptions which have been purchased.

Alexander A. Di Lella, O.F.M., speaking for the Committee on Credentials, recommended the following candidates for membership in the CBA:

For Active Membership:

Juan I. Alfaro, O.S.B., Michael L. Barré, S.S., Paul S. Berge, Mary C. Boys, S.N.J.M., Juliana Casey, I.H.M., Richard J. Cassidy, Joanna Dewey, Michael Brennan Dick, Harry T. Fleddermann, John R. Flynn, O.S.A., Beverly Roberts Gaventa, Lester L. Grabbe, M. Dennis Hamm, S.J., Gene Hensell, Leslie J. Hoppe, O.F.M., Lawrence L. Hummer, Hans-Winfried Jüngling, S.J., Helen Ann Kenik, O.P., Erich H. Kiehl, Werner E. Lemke, Kathleen E. McVey, Enrique Nardoni, Carolyn Ann Osiek, R.S.C.J., Birger A. Pearson, C. A. Joachim Pillai, O.M.I., Jonathan Rosenbaum, Timothy P. Schehr, Arthur J. Serratelli, Michael G. Steinhauser, Dennis M. Sweetland, Gregory Tajchman, O.F.M., John Welch, S.J., Robert A. Wild, S.J., William J. Urbrock, and Bonaventure Zerr, O.S.B.

For Associate Membership:

John A. Bergamo, Jonathan Bishop, Donald D. Fraser, John P. Galvin, Mary Ann Ihm, O.S.F., John M. Lawrence, Edward J. McMahon II, Mark McVann, F.S.C., Richard Malone, Earl Muller, S.J., Carol Kern Stockhausen, Peter J. Stuhlmiller, and Ann Sullivan, O.P.

These candidates were unanimously accepted by voice vote.

Di Lella then publicly thanked the members of the Program Committee for their work and made an announcement on future procedures for planning the annual meetings. The contents of that announcement will be included in a letter to be sent shortly to the CBA membership.

James M. Reese reported for the Committee on Nominations. They recommended the following slate of candidates: *President*: Rev. Carroll Stuhlmüller, C.P.; *Vice-President*: Rev. Neil J. McEleney, C.S.P.; *Treasurer*: Msgr. Patrick W. Skehan; *Executive Secretary*: Joseph Jensen, O.S.B.; *Consultors, 1978-80*: Sr. Alexa Suelzer, S.P., and Eugene LaVerdiere, S.S.S.; *Committee on Nominations, 1978-82*: Dr. Bruce J. Malina; *Associate Editors of CBQ, 1978-82*: Jimmy J. M. Roberts, George Nickelsburg, Jack Dean Kingsbury, and Stanley Marrow. The membership elected the slate by unanimous voice vote.

Brendan McGrath, O.S.B., on behalf of the Committee on Resolutions, proposed the following: to thank the President and staff of the University of San Francisco and the Committee on Local Arrangements for their efforts to provide for a pleasant stay; to thank Bishop Pierre DuMaine for being with us at our liturgy and sharing with us his reflections on the feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary; and to thank the Program Committee for all they had done to prepare a successful meeting. The resolutions were accepted unanimously.

The Business Meeting was adjourned at 4:45 P.M.

The evening general session heard Paul J. Achtemeier deliver the paper, "He Taught them Many Things: Reflections on Marcan Christology."

Sessions on Thursday, August 24

The Task Forces and Continuing Seminars met in the first part of the morning, as on the two previous days. Two simultaneous sessions followed: John A. Grindel, C.M., "The Validity of the E Criteria in the Pentateuch"; and Elisabeth Schüssler Fiorenza, "The Role of Women According to Luke/Acts."

Anthony R. Ceresko, O.S.F.S., was principal concelebrant and homilist for the midday liturgy.

The following CBA members and invited guests were in attendance at the meeting:

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| Achtemeier, Paul J. | Dietlein, Damien, O.S.B. |
| Alfaro, Juan, O.S.B. | Di Lella, Alexander A., O.F.M. |
| Arkin, Irvin M. | Dillon, Richard J. |
| Bailey, Joseph G. | Donzé, Edward H., S.M. |
| Barbieri, Amedeo, P.I.M.E. | Duggan, Michael W. |
| Barré, Michael L., S.S. | Dunn, Stephen G. |
| Batto, Bernard F. | Durken, Daniel, O.S.B. |
| Bellet, Paulinus, O.S.B. | Elliott, John H. |
| Bergant, Dianne, C.S.A. | Engeln, John |
| Bishop, Jonathan | Fiorenza, Elisabeth Schüssler |
| Boadt, Lawrence, C.S.P. | Fischer, James A., C.M. |
| Boucher, Madeleine | Flanagan, Neal |
| Bowes, Paula J. | Fleddermann, Harry |
| Boyle, John L., S.J. | Foley, James J. |
| Branick, Vincent P., S.M. | Forshey, Harold O. |
| Brodie, Louis T., O.P. | Freedman, David Noel |
| Brown, Schuyler, S.J. | Frizzell, Lawrence |
| Bucher, Otto, O.F.M. Cap. | Grassi, Joseph A. |
| Buckley, Francis J., S.J. | Graystone, Geoffrey, S.M. |
| Bushinski, Leonard A., C.S.Sp. | Grindel, John A., C.M. |
| Byrne, Gerald S. | Halligan, Raymond F., O.P. |
| Cassidy, Richard J. | Hamm, Dennis, S.J. |
| Ceresko, Anthony R., O.S.F.S. | Hartdegen, Stephen, O.F.M. |
| Ciuba, Edward J. | Hawkins, Stephen |
| Clifford, Richard J., S.J. | Hayes, Bonaventure, O.F.M. |
| Corcoran, Cassian, O.F.M. | Heemrood, Johannes A., O.M.I. |
| Cordano, Virgil, O.F.M. | Heupler, Charles G., O.F.M. Cap. |
| Craghan, John F., C.S.S.R. | Hoffman, Thomas A., S.J. |
| Cullom, Barbara A. | Hollar, John A. |
| Dagher, Joseph A., S.D.B. | Holleran, J. Warren |
| Dahood, Mitchell, S.J. | Hopkins, Nancy |
| Daly, Robert J., S.J. | Hopkins, Martin, O.P. |
| Danker, Frederick W. | Hoppe, Leslie J., O.F.M. |

Huesman, John E., S.J.
 Hurst, Thomas
 Irwin, William H., C.S.B.
 Jensen, Joseph, O.S.B.
 Johnson, Luke T.
 Karban, Roger R.
 Karris, Robert J., O.F.M.
 Keating, John R., S.J.
 Keegan, Terence J., O.P.
 Kendall, R. Daniel, S.J.
 Kenik, Helen A., O.P.
 Kessler, Martin
 Kilgallen, John J., S.J.
 King, Philip J.
 Kirby, Martin F.
 Kolenkow, Anitra Bingham
 Kselman, John S., S.S.
 Kugelman, Richard, C.P.
 Laberge, Leo, O.M.I.
 Laffey, Alice, R.S.M.
 Lane, M. Kathleen
 Lazor, Bernard A., O.S.A.
 Leahy, Thomas W., S.J.
 Lenti, Arthur J.
 L'Heureux, Conrad E.
 MacDonald, Burton
 MacKenzie, R. A.F., S.J.
 McCreesh, Thomas P., O.P.
 McDonnell, Rea, S.S.N.D.
 McEleney, Neil J., C.S.P.
 McEvenue, Sean
 McGrath, Brendan, O.S.B.
 Malina, Bruce J.
 Maly, Eugene H.
 Martin, Francis
 Martinez, Ernest R., S.J.
 Meehan, Francis X.
 Meier, John P.
 Mindling, Joseph A., O.F.M. Cap.
 Montague, George T., S.M.
 Moriarty, Frederick L., S.J.
 Mulcahey, William, C.M.
 Mulhall, Michael, O.Carm.
 Muller, Earl, S.J.
 Murphy, John R., S.J.
 Nickle, Keith F.
 North, Robert, S.J.
 O'Connell, Kevin G., S.J.
 O'Grady, John F.
 O'Toole, Robert F., S.J.
 Parr, Charles J.
 Paul, Leonard D., C.S.C.
 Perkins, Pheme
 Perlewitz, Miriam, M.M.
 Petronek, Thomas C.
 Petru, Francis A., S.J.
 Pierce, Justin A., S.D.S.
 Pilch, John J.
 Pisanto, Stephen, S.J.
 Reaume, Michael R., S.M.
 Reese, James M., O.S.F.S.
 Reid, David P., SS.CC.
 Reimherr, Otto
 Richards, Kent Harold
 Richardson, H. Neil
 Rubsys, Anthony L.
 Ryan, William, S.J.
 Sargent, Benjamin F., S.J.
 Schmitt, John J.
 Schneider, Geoffrey
 Schneiders, Sandra M., I.H.M.
 Schuele, Frederick E.
 Sena, Patrick J., C.PP.S.
 Senior, Donald, C.P.
 Serafelli, Arthur J.
 Sheridan, Mark, O.S.B.
 Skehan, Patrick W.
 Sklba, Richard J.
 Sloyan, Gerard S.
 Smith, David W.
 Sorenson, Howard, O.M.I.
 Steiner, Luke, O.S.B.
 Stockhausen, Carol Kern
 Stuhmueller, Carroll, C.P.
 Suriano, Thomas M.
 Tajchman, Gregory, O.F.M.
 Talbert, Charles H.
 Tambasco, Anthony J., S.M.M.
 Tetlow, Elisabeth M.
 Tobin, Thomas H., S.J.
 Ulrich, Eugene C.
 Van Linden, Philip, C.M.

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Vawter, Bruce, C.M.

Via, E. Jane

Viviano, Benedict T., O.P.

Viviano, Pauline

Walsh, Michael F., C.M.

Welch, John J., S.J.

Werenski, Robert

Wifall, Walter R.

ANTHONY R. CERESKO, O.S.F.S.

University of St. Michael's College, Toronto

Recording Secretary