

**Report of the Forty-Second General meeting of The Catholic Biblical Association of America**

Boston College in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, hosted the 42nd General Meeting of The Catholic Biblical Association from Monday, Aug. 20, through Thursday, Aug. 23, 1979. At the opening session on Monday evening, Rev. Joseph A. Panuska, S.J., Academic Vice President and Dean of Faculties, cordially welcomed the Association to the campus of Boston College. Rev. Carroll Stuhlmueller, C.P., then delivered his Presidential Address, "Deutero-Isaiah (chaps. 40-55): Major Transitions in the Prophet's Theology and in Contemporary Scholarship."

*Sessions on Tuesday, August 21*

Five Task Forces and seven Continuing Seminars met simultaneously each day from 9:00-10:45 A.M. The Task Forces and their conveners included: "Early Pentateuchal Sources" (Michael Mulhall, O. Carm.); "Hebrew Poetry" (Conrad 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 studied: "Mark's Gospel as an Interpretation of the Epistles" (Louis Brodie, O.P.); "Teaching Scripture as Pastoral Ministry" (Michael W. Duggan); "Christology" (Martin Hopkins, O.P.); "Early Christian Miracle Stories: The Ongoing Discussion" (Bruce J. Malina); "Hermeneutics and Preaching" (James M. Reese, O.S.F.S.); "Prophets and Liberation" (Carroll Stuhlmueller); "Old Testament Criticism" (Eugene C. Ulrich).

The morning concluded with two papers presented in simultaneous sessions: John S. Kselman, S.S., "Structure and Meaning in Hebrew Poetry," and John H. Elliott, "Sociological Exegesis: Some Methodological Prolegomena."

His Eminence Humberto Cardinal Medeiros was the principal celebrant and homilist for the Eucharistic Liturgy at midday. He asserted that "because she cannot be Docetist in her understanding of the Lord Jesus Christ, true God and true man, the Church cannot be fundamentalist in her approach to the word that God has inspired and revealed. . . . Those who are nervous or frightened by the work of serious biblical scholarship betray their failure to grasp that marvelous condescension of the Father who speaks in our ways. . . . They fail to realize that Biblical scholarship is not an attack on the truth but a means to attain it." His gracious and inspiring words brought a standing ovation.

Four sessions of Research Reports during the afternoon heard the following papers delivered: Benedict Viviano, O.P., "The High Priest's Servant's Ear: Mark 14:47 and Parallels: *Zeitkritik* and Redaction"; Charles H. Talbert, "Perspectives on Lukan Research since World War II"; James Crenshaw, "The Contest of Darius' Guards in 1 Esdr 3:1-5:3"; Helen Kenik, O.P., "'*āsā hesed*: Technical Language for Covenant Loyalty"; Hugh Humphrey, "The Boat Journeys in Mark (4:1-5:21; 6:32-8:21): Identical Structures"; Jerome Kodell, O.S.B., "New Light on Jesus' Death in Lukan Soteriology"; Daniel Harrington, S.J., "God's People in Christ: New Testament Perspectives on Judaism"; Robert A. Wild, S.J., "Jesus as a Pharisee"; Leslie Hoppe, O.F.M., "Who Were Israel's Diviners? A Study of Deut 18:9-22"; Mitchell Dahood, S.J., "New Reading in Proverbs"; Enrique Nardoni, "The Redactional Interpretation of Mark 9:1 and the Markan Eschatology"; Urban C. von Wahlde, "The Johannine Use of 'Jews' in the Fourth Gospel"; Joseph A. Fitzmyer, S.J., "Hab 2:3-4 and the New Testament"; James C. VanderKam, "Enoch and Noah in Early Pseudepigraphical Literature"; Walter Wifall, "The Foreign Nations—Israel's Nine Bows"; Conrad L'Heureux, "1979 Syrian Survey Project: Tell Qarqur and Vicinity"; C. A. Joachim Pillai, O.M.I., "The Children of Abraham in the Gospels"; John F. O'Grady, "The Purpose of the Gospel of John"; William Kurz, S.J., "Kenotic Imitation of Paul and of Christ in Philippians 3 and 2"; Paul J. Kobelski, "11Q Melchizedek and Angelic Christology"; Paul G. Mosca, "The Structure of Psalm 8: Chaos and Creation"; Philip J. King, "Report on the Current Archaeological Picture in the Near East."

The evening General Session featured the paper of Raymond E. Brown, S.S., "When none more saith, 'I saw'": The Post-Apostolic Churches in the New Testament."

#### *Sessions on Wednesday, August 22*

The Task Forces and Continuing Seminars resumed their work during the first part of the morning. Two simultaneous sessions then heard presentations by Mitchell Dahood, S.J., on "The Ebla Tablets and the Book of Genesis," and John P. Meier on "Jesus and the Baptist in Matthew's Gospel."

Rev. Neil McEleney, C.S.P., served as main celebrant for the Eucharistic Liturgy at midday. John H. Elliott delivered the homily.

The General Session in the afternoon listened to a Panel Discussion on the recently published ecumenical study *Mary in the New Testament*. Paul J. Achtemeier moderated the discussion and the panelists included Raymond E. Brown, Frederick W. Danker, PHEME Perkins, and Marian scholar Rev. George Kirwin, O.M.I.

CBA President Carroll Stuhlmueller, C.P., called the annual Business Meeting to order at 3:30 P.M. The first item on the agenda was the report of Msgr. Myles Bourke as Chairman of the Board of Trustees. Msgr. Patrick Skehan then gave the Treasurer's report. Joseph Jensen, O.S.B., followed with his report as Executive Secretary. After thanking the Local Arrangements Committee for their excellent work, he announced the following grants voted by the Executive Board: (a) for the Syrian Consortium for Survey and Excavation (under ASOR), \$10,000, conditional on a positive evaluation by the CBA committee of five of the final recommendation from the phase of the survey already completed. Eighty-nine sites have been sherded in the Rouj Valley and that part of the Ghab which lies north and east of the main north-south road. The next season's work will have the two-fold aim of completing the micro-survey and making soundings at several tells in order to determine the most promising for more intensive investigation to begin in 1981 or 1982. Michael Coogan, who is also director of the project, was confirmed as the CBA member to the consortium; Conrad L'Heureux was CBA member for the phase just completed. (b) Stipend and travel money for Jerome D. Quinn, CBA Visiting Professor to the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome for the 1979-80 academic year (see further below). At the request of Carroll Stuhlmueller, chairman of the committee on visiting professorships, Jensen reminded the members that applications for both the PBI and the Ecole Biblique for the next academic year are open until January 15th and urged those interested to apply. (c) \$1,000 for the Studium Biblicum Franciscanum translation project. (d) \$1,500 for the *Elenchus Bibliographicus Biblicus*. And (e) a tithe of membership dues (\$1,294) for famine relief. He further announced that the Task Force on "The Role of Women in Early Christianity" commissioned by the Executive Board in 1976 had completed one phase of their work, namely, a brief statement which is a précis of their ongoing discussion. This statement, entitled "Women and Priestly Ministry: The New Testament Evidence," the Board directed to be published in *CBQ* as part of the official record of the 1979 annual meeting and commends it to the membership (printed elsewhere in this issue). He said that the Board had defined the "eligible person" who can become a life member (Constitution, Article III, Section 2) as one who is already an active member. Finally, he reported that the next annual meeting will be held at the College of St. Scholastica, Duluth, August 18-21, 1980.

Carroll Stuhlmueller then added an item to the list of decisions of the Executive Board. In Jensen's absence the Board had voted to increase the Executive Secretary's honorarium and to present him with a personal gift of \$1,000 on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood in recognition of the generous service he has rendered the Association as Executive Secretary.

Richard J. Clifford, S.J., spoke as Editor of the *CBQ*. The number of manuscripts submitted each year since 1976 has remained rather constant at 70-75; about one out of every three is accepted for publication. As announced last year, Richard Clifford is resigning from his position as General Editor. The Editorial Board has selected Joseph A. Fitzmyer, S.J., to replace him as of Jan 1, 1980.

Bruce Vawter, C.M., reported as Chairman of the CBQMS Editorial Board and as Editor of *OTA*. Two further volumes of the Monograph Series were published during the past year; three more have been accepted and are in preparation. The third

number of volume two of *OTA* will soon go to press; it will include the indexes for volume two.

Francis Gignac presented a report on the *NAB* New Testament Revision. On September 14, 1978, he said the NCCB, through its Board of Directors of the CCD, authorized the preparation of a revision of the NT text of the *NAB* to reflect advances in scholarship and to satisfy needs identified through pastoral experience of the past nine years. Because of agreements between the CCD Corporation and publishers, the revision cannot be published before November 1982. The Board of Control of the *NAB* (Patrick W. Skehan, Stephen Hartdegen, and Addison Wright) established a Steering Committee to serve as Board of Editors for the revision, namely, Myles Bourke, Claude Peifer, John Reumann, Stephen Hartdegen (Secretary), and Gignac (Chairman). In December 1978 the Steering Committee met in Washington, with Joseph Jensen present in the interest of the CBA, and established guidelines for revisers. What is envisioned is a fairly thorough revision, and one that will respect the needs of scholarship as well as those of devotion and liturgical proclamation. Suitability for liturgical proclamation with dignity is being accorded primary emphasis. The Steering Committee selected prospective revisers and sub-editors, and all of those thus invited have accepted. In several cases, the original translators were invited to do the work of revision. The revisers will submit introductions and footnotes along with their translations. Stipends were also assigned for members of the Board of Editors and for the revisers. The contributions of the individual revisers are to be submitted by November 1980, and the process of editing by the Board of Editors will be completed by November 1981. The Board of Editors will remain in contact with the revisers during the final editing to solicit their reaction to proposed changes. Other experts will be consulted during the process of final editing.

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

*For Active Membership:*

Jouette M. Bassler, Paula Josephine Bowes, George Wesley Buchanan, Brendan J. Byrne, S.J., Edward F. Campbell, Jr., Thomas Collins, Mary Rose D'Angelo, Philip R. Davies, M. Timothea Elliott, R.S.M., Cheryl Exum, Norman K. Gottwald, Paul J. Kobelski, S. Dean McBride, Jr., James Stanley McIvor, Patrick Michael Meagher, S.J., Patrick D. Miller, Jr., William Thomas Miller, S.J., Jerome H. Neyrey, S.J., Brian M. Nolan, C.M., Douglas M. Parrott, Terrence Thomas Prendergast, S.J., Suzanne Louise Richard, Henry L. Rowold, John J. Schmitt, Fernando F. Segovia, Janet A. Timbie, Humberto Vargas Rivera, James P. M. Walsh, S.J., Robert Joseph Werenski.

*For Associate Membership:*

Andrew H. Bartelt, O. Stephenson Brooks, Mark L. Curesky, O.F.M. Conv., P. M. Michele Daviau, Paul O. Davidson, Robert A. DiVito, S.J., Anthony John Endres, Eugene V. Gallagher, Maribeth Howell, O.P., Anthony A. Hutchinson, Arthur J. Kubick, Janyce Rebecca Lyman, Robert S. Majoros, Jr., Alec Mazurek, Biagio Mazza, James P. McIlhone, Stephen Francis Miletic, Bruce K. Modahl, H. Armin Moellering, Robert K. Moriarty, S.M., Harry P. Nasuti, Irene Nowell, O.S.B.,

Mary Margaret Pazdan, O.P., Richard A. Poole, Stephen Breck Reid, Marla J. Schierling, Mark Stratton Smith, James B. Sullivan, Dolores T. Tieman, Charles J. Tilley, George W. J. Yahn.

These candidates were accepted by voice vote.

Lawrence Boadt, C.S.P., spoke for the Program Committee. The unusually high number of Research Reports offered for this year's meeting has necessitated the adoption of certain guidelines for the future to insure balance in the program as well as fairness to those offering reports. Boadt also reminded the membership that the word "continuing" in "Continuing Seminars" means that the seminar continues during the three days of the Meeting but does not necessarily continue into the following year unless the members so wish and so inform the appropriate person on the Program Committee.

Martin Hopkins, O.P., reported for the Committee on Nominations. They recommended the following slate of candidates: *President*: Rev. Neil J. McEleney, C.S.P.; *Vice-President*: Rev. Mitchell J. Dahood, S.J.; *Treasurer*: Msgr. Patrick W. Skehan; *Executive Secretary*: Joseph Jensen, O.S.B.; *Consultors, 1979-81*: Helen Kenik, O.P., and Leo Laberge, O.M.I.; *Delegate to the CSR*: John P. Meier; *Committee on Nominations, 1979-83*: Eugene H. Maly; *Associate Editors of CBQ, 1979-83*: Aloysius Fitzgerald, F.S.C., Anthony J. Saldarini, Sandra M. Schneiders, I.H.M., and Eugene C. Ulrich. (Francis T. Fallon was later appointed by the General Editor.) The membership elected the slate by unanimous voice vote.

Brendan McGrath, O.S.B., on behalf of the Committee on Resolutions, proposed resolutions to thank His Eminence Humberto Cardinal Medeiros for celebrating the Eucharist with our membership and for his encourageing and challenging words; to thank Boston College, and in particular Thomas O'Malley, Robert Daly, Anthony Saldarini, and the many others at Boston College who had contributed so much toward making the meeting a success; to thank the Program Committee and speakers; and to congratulate the Executive Secretary on the 25th anniversary of his ordination. The Resolutions were accepted unanimously.

The Business Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

The evening General Session heard Roland E. Murphy, O. Carm., deliver the paper, "The Implications of Israel's Wisdom for Christian Theology."

### *Sessions on Thursday, August 23*

The Task Forces and Continuing Seminars met in the first part of the morning. Two simultaneous sessions followed: William H. Irwin, C.S.B., "The Style of Isaiah 24-27"; Francis Martin, "Literary and Theological Reflections on the Function of New Testament Narrative: An Analysis of Some Synoptic Examples" (read by Paul Achtemeier).

Rev. Michael Duggan was principal celebrant and homilist for the midday Eucharistic Liturgy.

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

Achtemeier, Paul J.  
Alfaro, Juan, O.S.B.

Bailey, Joseph G.  
Bellet, Paulinus, O.S.B.

Benjamin, Don C., O.Carm.  
 Bergant, Dianne, C.S.A.  
 Bernas, Casimir, O.C.S.O.  
 Bishop, Jonathan  
 Boadt, Lawrence, C.S.P.  
 Bossman, David, O.F.M.  
 Boucher, Madeleine  
 Bourke, Myles M.  
 Bowes, Paula  
 Boys, Mary, S.N.J.M.  
 Brodie, Louis, O.P.  
 Brown, Raymond E., S.S.  
 Brummel, Thomas, C.M.F.  
 Bucher, Otto, O.F.M., Cap.  
 Buckley, Thomas W.  
 Bushinski, Leonard A., C.S.Sp.  
 Buss, Martin J.  
 Cassidy, Richard J.  
 Carlston, Charles  
 Ceresko, Anthony, O.S.F.S.  
 Clifford, Richard, J., S.J.  
 Cody, Aelred, O.S.B.  
 Cohen, Chaim  
 Collins, John J.  
 Coogan, Michael David  
 Corbellini, Peter  
 Corcoran, Cassian, O.F.M.  
 Cordano, Virgil, O.F.M.  
 Cotty, Marion  
 Crane, Thomas E.  
 Crenshaw, James  
 Crim, Keith  
 Crim, Julia  
 Cullom, Barbara  
 Dahood, Mitchell, S.J.  
 Daly, Robert J. S.J.  
 Danker, Frederick W.  
 Devine, J. Frank, S.J.  
 Dick, Michael B.  
 Dietlein, Damian, O.S.B.  
 Di Lella, Alexander A., O.F.M.  
 Dillon, Richard J.  
 Duggan, Michael W.  
 Dunn, Stephen  
 Endres, John, S.J.  
 Elliott, John H.  
 Exum, Cheryl  
 Fallon, Francis T.  
 Fischer, James, C.M.  
 Fitzmyer, Joseph A., S.J.  
 Forshey, Harold O.  
 Forestell, J. T., C.S.B.  
 Frizzell, Lawrence E.  
 Galvin, John P.  
 Gammie, John G.  
 Gignac, Francis T., S.J.  
 Grassi, Joseph A.  
 Grindel, John, C.M.  
 Hamm, Dennis, S.J.  
 Harrington, Daniel, J., S.J.  
 Hensell, Gene, O.S.B.  
 Heupler, Charles, O.F.M., Cap.  
 Hinnebusch, Paul, O.P.  
 Hoffman, Thomas A., S.J.  
 Hollar, John A.  
 Hopkins, Martin, O.P.  
 Hoppe, Leslie J., O.F.M.  
 Horan, Edward J.  
 Horgan, Maurya  
 Humphrey, Hugh  
 Irwin, William, C.S.B.  
 Jenks, Alan W.  
 Jensen Joseph, O.S.B.  
 Johnson, Luke T.  
 Jurkowowitz, Paul  
 Karban, Roger  
 Karris, Robert J., O.F.M.  
 Keating John R., S.J.  
 Keegan, Terrence J., O.P.  
 Kendall, Daniel, S.J.  
 Kenik, Helen A., O.P.  
 Kessler, Martin  
 King, Philip J.  
 Kirby, Martin F.  
 Kraus, Damien, O.S.B.  
 Kobelski, Paul  
 Kodell, Jerome, O.S.B.  
 Kolenkow, Anita B.  
 Kselman, John S., S.S.  
 Kublick, Art  
 Kumaki, Francis K.  
 Kurz, William S., S.J.

- Laberge, Leo, O.M.I.  
 Lackowski, Joseph, C.M.  
 Laffey, Alice, R.S.M.  
 Lawton, Robert  
 Leahy, Thomas W., S.J.  
 L'Heureux, Conrad E.  
 Lillie, Betty Jane, S.C.  
 Malina, Bruce J.  
 Majoros, Robert  
 Maloney, Elliott  
 McCarthy, Jean V., O.P.  
 McCreesh, Thomas, O.P.  
 McDonnell, John J., C.M.  
 McDonnell, Rea, S.S.N.D.  
 McEleney, Neil J., C.S.P.  
 McEvenue, Sean  
 McGrath, Brendan, O.S.B.  
 McIlraith, Dowal  
 McLaughlin, Gertrude, S.N.J.M.  
 McVann, Mark, F.S.C.  
 Meagher, Patrick, S.J.  
 Meier, John P.  
 Miller, Charles H., S.M.  
 Miller, William T., S.J.  
 Moriarty, Frederick L., S.J.  
 Moriarty, Robert, S.M.  
 Mosca, Paul  
 Mulhall, Michael, O.Carm.  
 Mulcahey, William, C.M.  
 Murphy, John, S.J.  
 Murphy, Roland, O.Carm.  
 Nardoni, Enrique  
 Nasuti, Harry P.  
 Navarre, Nanette, O.S.U.  
 Neyrey, Jerome, S.J.  
 Nickels, Peter, O.F.M.Conv.  
 Nickelsburg, George  
 Nickle, Keith F.  
 Nolan, Brian, C.M.  
 North, Robert, S.J.  
 Nowell, Irene, O.S.B.  
 O'Connell, Kevin G., S.J.  
 O'Grady, John F.  
 O'Reilly, Frances  
 O'Toole, Robert, S.J.  
 Parr, Charles  
 Pazdan, Mary Margaret, O.P.  
 Perkins, PHEME  
 Perlewitz, Miriam F., M.M.  
 Pierce, Justin  
 Pilch, John J.  
 Pillai, Joachim C. A., O.M.I.  
 Plevnik, Joseph, S.J.  
 Polan, Stanley M.  
 Prendergast, Terrence, S.J.  
 Reese, James M., O.S.F.S.  
 Reid, David P., SS.CC.  
 Reimherr, Otto  
 Richardson, H. Neil  
 Rossiter, Francis S.  
 Ryan, Thomas  
 Sacks, Francis, C.M.  
 Saldarini, Anthony J.  
 Schmit, Meyrl E.  
 Schmitt, John J.  
 Schneider, Bernardin, O.F.M.  
 Schneiders, Sandra, I.H.M.  
 Schuele, Frederick  
 Schuller, Eileen, O.S.U.  
 Segovia, Fernando  
 Sena, Patrick, C.P.P.S.  
 Serratelli, Arthur J.  
 Sharp, Donald, S.J.  
 Skehan, Patrick  
 Sklba, Richard J.  
 Smith, David W.  
 Smith, Mark S.  
 Soards, Marion L., Jr.  
 Stapleton, Matthew  
 Steele, E. Springs  
 Stockhausen, Carol Kern  
 Stuhlmüller, Carroll, C.P.  
 Sweetland, Dennis M.  
 Talbert, Charles H.  
 Tambasco, Anthony  
 Tetlow, Elisabeth M.  
 Turner, Wayne A.  
 Ulrich, Eugene  
 VanderKam, James C.  
 Van Linden, Philip, C.M.  
 Vawter, Bruce, C.M.  
 Vedder, Bernard R., O.M.I.

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Viviano, Benedict Thomas, O.P.  
Viviano, Pauline  
von Wahlde, Urban  
Walsh, Jerome T.  
Walsh, John  
Walsh, Michael  
Walsh, William J.  
Wcela, Emil A.

Weis, Earl A., S.J.  
Weinert, Francis D.  
Werenski, Robert  
Wifall, Walter  
Wild, Robert A., S.J.  
Wimmer, Donald H.  
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