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The Secretary's Report

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THE SECRETARY'S REPORT

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tuesday Evening, May 28, 1991

Present were Bishop Austin B. Vaughan (episcopal moderator), Fr. James McCurry, O.F.M.Conv. (president), Frs. Walter T. Brennan, O.S.M., Eamon R. Carroll, O.Carm., Theodore A. Koehler, S.M., Matthew F. Morry, O.P., Charles W. Neumann, S.M., J. Armand Robichaud, S.M., Thomas A. Thompson, S.M. Unable to attend were Fr. James T. O'Connor and Fr. Frederick M. Jelly, O.P.

The program, the site and the speakers for the 1992 meeting were reviewed. The 1992 meeting, "Mary in the Mysteries of Christ—Ordinary Time," will be the last of three meetings devoted to Mary's association with Christ in the liturgical year. In addition to the three presentations on the liturgical year, a conference on the work and significance of the founder of the Mariological Society of America, Fr. Juniper B. Carol, O.F.M., who died on April 1, 1990, will be given.

In response to the invitation extended by Msgr. Francis G. Wearden and the Houston Regional Unit of the MSA, Houston was chosen by unanimous decision as the site for the 1992 convention. (Sites proposed as possibilities for future years were Philadelphia and Baltimore.)

The proposal to change the days (previously Tuesday through Thursday) of the meeting was accepted. The 1992 meeting will begin on Wednesday evening (meeting of the Board of Directors) and conclude on Friday afternoon (May 27-29). The reason for this change is to allow those who wish to take advantage of reduced air fares available to those who include a Saturday in their travel plan.

Suggestions for speakers to present the papers at the 1992 meeting were given.

Consideration was given to the topics of future MSA meetings. Popular piety and Marian devotion seemed to be a timely theme—valuable in itself and one to which the MSA has given little attention. Possibly two programs could be organized: the first program on the origins, development, and theological significance of popular piety, and the second program devoted to examining and reflecting on specific manifestations of popular piety in different periods (patristic, medieval, American colonial) and cultures (Hispanic, other ethnic groups), as well as apparitions, and the ecumenical implications of popular piety.

Bro. John M. Samaha was appointed treasurer for one year to complete the term of Fr. Charles Costello who resigned (it is the prerogative of the Board of Directors to fill positions of board members who resign their position before the expiration of their term).

A standing committee to determine nominees for the Cardinal Wright Award was appointed for a five-year period; members of the committee are Eamon R. Carroll, O.Carm., James T. O'Connor, and Bertrand Buby, S.M. The committee will recommend to the Board of Directors nominees to receive the Cardinal Wright Mariological Award; a stipend, together with a memento of Cardinal Wright, will be given. The award is to recognize and encourage significant writing on Mary. Previously, the reception of the award was limited to MSA members; MSA membership will no longer be a requirement.

MEETING OF THE ACTIVE MEMBERS

Wednesday Afternoon, May 29, 1991

At the business meeting of active members present at this convention, Frs. T. William Coyle, C.Ss.R., and James Parker were elected to a three-year term on the Board of Directors (1991-1994). Rev. Leonard Glavin, O.F.M.Cap., was made a member of the Nominating Committee, and Mrs. Patricia Driscoll was made a member of the Committee on Admis-

sions. It was announced that Bro. John Samaha had, in accordance with the Bylaws, been appointed treasurer to fulfill the term of the Rev. Charles Costello who had resigned.

MEETING OF THE ACTIVE MEMBERS

Thursday Afternoon, May 30, 1991

The new active and associate members were approved as presented by the Committee on Admissions.

Reports from the New England, Houston (Texas), and Western regions were presented.

The dates (May 27-29) and the location (Houston, Texas) of the 1992 national meeting were announced. No new business was introduced.

Resolutions were approved expressing the gratitude of the Society to the following:

1) to Joseph Cardinal Bernardin, Archbishop of Chicago, for the invitation to the archdiocese;

2) to Bishop Wilton D. Gregory, Auxiliary for the Archdiocese of Chicago, for celebrating the Eucharist and his welcome to the archdiocese on the first day of the convention;

3) to Bishop Austin B. Vaughan, the Society's episcopal chairman, whose presence at the convention was much appreciated;

4) to Mr. Arthur W. Clinton, Jr., the Reverend Alfred M. Croke, Msgr. Albert W. Low, Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. McGratty, III, the Very Rev. Stanley Matuszewski, M.S., and the Reverend Walter F. Pelczynski, M.I.C., for their generous contributions to the Society—and to the many other benefactors not mentioned here by name to whom we are grateful, especially to the Supporting Members as listed in *Marian Studies*;

5) to the Servites of Chicago for providing the reception, and to the staff of the Cenacle Retreat House for their welcome and hospitality;

6) and, finally, to the speakers and discussion leaders for their gracious and scholarly response to the Society's invitation to contribute to the program.

The meeting concluded with the singing of the *Salve Regina*.