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Report, 1984-85: Western Region

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REPORT, 1984-85: WESTERN REGION

1. Reports

Our first report was made to the 1984 national convention and directors' meeting.

Other oral and written reports have been made to the Marianists and Servites in the West, to *Marianum*, and to an MSA/West business meeting.

Marian Studies 1984 carried a brief notice of our work in the Secretary's Report of the convention proceedings. At that time, the Board of Directors proposed to formulate a new article for the Constitution regarding the nature and function of MSA Regions.

During the course of the year, the MSA/West executive secretary has corresponded with and informed the MSA national secretary regarding developments.

2. Organization

Father Alfred Boeddeker and Brother John Samaha, chairman and secretary respectively, met frequently during the year to plan and to involve others in MSA/West, and to consult with others.

A business meeting was held at the Cathedral of St. Mary in San Francisco on January 7, 1985, with twelve members from various parts of the San Francisco Bay Area. Plans for a Mariology conference were the main item of business at this meeting. The chairman and secretary were asked to move ahead and to enlist the help of others in this project.

Once the question of founding a western regional unit of the MSA is settled, an organizational procedure to draft a charter and to elect officers will be placed in motion.

3. Membership

The MSA/West executive secretary launched and is still conducting a membership drive for the national MSA and the Western Regional Unit. Membership is open to all who are interested in promoting the honor of Mary. Active membership in the MSA is, of course, limited to those who have the requisite theological-scholarly competency.

To date, MSA/West has enrolled 93 members. MSA already had 16 members in the West.

New membership enrolled in this past year includes 13 bishops, 5 laity, 5 religious Sisters, 10 religious Brothers, 37 religious priests, 23 diocesan priests.

The membership drive continues.

4. Annual Mariology Conference

The first annual Mariology Conference sponsored by MSA/West was held in Portland, Oregon, at the Sanctuary of Our Sorrowful Mother on June 7-8, 1984.

The second annual Mariology Conference is scheduled for September 7, 1985, at the Cathedral of St. Mary in San Francisco. The principal speakers will be Father Eamon R. Carroll, O.Carm., and Father Neal Flanagan, O.S.M.

5. Newsletter

An occasional newsletter, *Mary Today*, shares Marian information among members of MSA/West.

6. Finances

Finances are a major concern to be addressed at the next meeting. The chief need for income is the support of the annual Mariology Conference.

BRO. JOHN SAMAHA, S.M.
Executive Secretary, MSA/West