

1951

## The Secretary's Report on the Worcester Meeting

Mariological Society of America

Follow this and additional works at: [https://ecommons.udayton.edu/marian\\_studies](https://ecommons.udayton.edu/marian_studies)



Part of the [Catholic Studies Commons](#), [Christianity Commons](#), and the [Religious Thought, Theology and Philosophy of Religion Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Mariological Society of America (1951) "The Secretary's Report on the Worcester Meeting," *Marian Studies*: Vol. 2, Article 6.

Available at: [https://ecommons.udayton.edu/marian\\_studies/vol2/iss1/6](https://ecommons.udayton.edu/marian_studies/vol2/iss1/6)

This Front Matter is brought to you for free and open access by the Marian Library Publications at eCommons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Marian Studies by an authorized editor of eCommons. For more information, please contact [mschlange1@udayton.edu](mailto:mschlange1@udayton.edu), [ecommons@udayton.edu](mailto:ecommons@udayton.edu).

## THE SECRETARY'S REPORT ON THE WORCESTER MEETING

His Excellency the Most Rev. John Joseph Wright, Bishop of Worcester, opened the second national convention of the Mariological Society of America by offering the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for the assembled members at the high altar of St. Paul's Cathedral at nine-thirty in the morning on Jan. 3, 1951. After the Mass, Bishop Wright welcomed the members to Worcester and expressed his satisfaction that the first convention to meet in Worcester since this city was elevated to episcopal rank was the society dedicated to the study of the theology of Mary.

The first General Assembly of the Society was held in the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Sheraton (formerly the Hotel Bancroft) at ten-thirty. The members heard and discussed the paper *The Historical Conspectus of the Doctrine of Co-redemption*, by the Rev. Dr. Lawrence Riley, of St. John's Seminary, Brighton, Massachusetts. Two papers, *An Evaluation of the Arguments in Favor of Mary's Co-redemption*, by the Rev. Dr. Eugene B. Gallagher, S.J., of Georgetown University, and *The Theological Aspects of Mary's Co-redemption*, by the Rev. Dr. Thomas Urban Mullaney, O.P., of the Dominican House of Studies in Washington, were read at the afternoon session of that same day.

The following morning, at ten o'clock, the Rev. Dr. Lawrence P. Everett, C.S.S.R., of Mount St. Alphonsus Seminary at Esopus, New York, read his paper, *The Nexus Between Mary's Co-redemption and Her Other Prerogatives*. At eleven o'clock the various selective seminars were held. The Rev. George Bissonnette, A.A., spoke on *The Twelfth Chapter of the Apocalypse and Our Lady's Assumption*. The Rev. Aidan Carr, O.F.M.Conv., read his lecture entitled *Notes on the His-*



tory of *Marian Devotion in Canada*. The Rev. Dr. William F. Allen, of St. Mary's Church, Pittsfield, Mass., spoke on *Mary's Predestination in the Light of Recent Theological Controversies*. The Rev. Dr. Joseph A. Moynahan, of St. Paul's Cathedral, Worcester, lectured on *Our Lady's Merit "de congruo" according to Pope Pius X*. Discussion leaders for these selective seminars were, respectively, the Reverend Doctors Dominic J. Unger, O.F.M.Cap., Kenneth B. Moore, O.Carm., Francis J. Connell, C.S.S.R., and Eugene B. Gallagher, S.J.

The final paper read to the general assembly, at the afternoon meeting of the second day of the convention, was Bishop Wright's treatise on *Mariology in the Literature of the English-speaking World*.

His Excellency, the Most Rev. Sigibald B. Kurz, O.F.M., presided at each of the general sessions. The attendance averaged about one hundred and twenty.

At the final session, the business meeting, the committee on applications reported the names of the candidates for membership. All were admitted to the society by the unanimous vote of the assembly. The members then voted to elect the Rev. Dr. George W. Shea, of Immaculate Conception Seminary, Darlington, New Jersey, and the Very Rev. Frank A. Setzer, S.M.M., of the Montfort Fathers, Litchfield, Connecticut, as members of the board of directors of the Society. They replace the Reverend Doctors Francis Hannigan, S.M., and Eugene B. Gallagher, S.J., whose terms of office were completed this year.

The Society then adopted the following resolution: That the doctrine that Mary co-operated actively and directly with Jesus Christ in the work of redeeming the human race is supported by weighty arguments and merits profound and increased prayerful study by Catholic scholars in the hope of further clarification.



After the secretary had reported to the Society about our participation in the International Mariological Congress in Rome last October, the assembly unanimously adopted the following resolutions.

Be it resolved that:

The Mariological Society of America at its second annual meeting goes on record as expressing its profound gratitude to His Excellency, the Most Reverend John J. Wright, Bishop of Worcester, for his cordial invitation, for his marvelous cooperation, and his splendid hospitality. The Bishop has aided the Society and its cause immeasurably, not only by his patronage, by his attendance at and his participation in the meetings, and by his kindness in offering the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for the Society in his Cathedral Church, but also by his magnificent paper read to the Society at the closing meeting today.

The Society also extends its heartfelt thanks to His Excellency, the Most Rev. Bishop Kurz for his great kindness in attending the meetings.

It also wishes to thank the priests of the Diocese of Worcester for their interest in the Society and for their magnificent hospitality, and for their kindness in providing the members of the Society with the opportunity of saying Mass in the churches under their care. The Society wishes especially to thank Father Moynahan and Father Neary, the two priests assigned by Bishop Wright to the work of preparing for the convention and the reception of the members of the Society. It also wishes to thank the management and the staff of the Sheraton Hotel for their very effective work during the convention.

Mindful of the fact that, since the close of our first meeting, Our Holy Father Pope Pius XII has solemnly defined the dogma of Our Lady's bodily Assumption into heaven, The Mariological Society of America, proud of its filial loyalty to the Vicar of Christ, wishes to express its enthusiastic gratitude



to the Holy Father for the magnificent service he has rendered to the Church of Christ and to the cause of Christ's truth. The Society instructs its Secretary to convey this expression of its gratitude to the Holy Father through the appropriate channels.

Mindful likewise of the fact that it was privileged to sponsor the American section of the International Mariological Congress in Rome during the Holy Year just past, The Mariological Society of America hereby expresses its thanks to His Excellency the Most Reverend Apostolic Delegate to the United States, the Most Reverend Archbishop Cicognani, to their Excellencies Archbishop Binz, Bishop Leech, and Bishop Ready for their kindly encouragement and for their valued attendance at the meetings of the American section. It also wishes to thank their Excellencies, Msgr. Alfredo Ottaviani and Msgr. Sergio Pignedoli of the Central Holy Year Committee for their active and effective interest in the American meetings.

Finally, the Society wishes to thank the Rev. Wilfrid G. Hurley, C.S.P., rector of Santa Susanna in Rome, for his magnificent work as chairman of the American section. It wishes to manifest its gratitude to Father Hurley by constituting him hereby a life member of this Society.

The Secretary is hereby instructed to communicate the thanks of the Society to the prelates and priests named in this resolution.

The above resolution was adopted unanimously by the assembly. The convention adjourned at 4:40 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

REV. JOSEPH C. FENTON, S.T.D.,  
*Secretary.*