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The Second Annual Convention

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THE SECOND ANNUAL CONVENTION

The second annual convention of the American Catholic Sociological Society is now history. Four hundred and fifty people representing every section of the country came to the meetings held December 27-29 at the Morrison Hotel, Chicago, Illinois.

On the afternoon of the 28th an overflow crowd assembled in the Mural Room of the Morrison Hotel to hear his Excellency, the Most Rev. Bernard J. Sheil, D.D., Senior Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago, speak on the topic "The Catholic Youth Movement, Sociology in Action."

Largest delegation came from Illinois. Wisconsin was second with fifty-one delegates, while Minnesota, Ohio, New York, and Indiana, came next in order in the number of delegates. In all over ninety institutions were represented.

At the business meeting held on the morning of December 29, the ACSS voted to publish a quarterly magazine and to increase the amount of constituent dues to \$3. This price as well as institutional membership fee to include the quarterly. Associate memberships were discontinued. By an unanimous vote the Society decided to dedicate its first issue of the AMERICAN CATHOLIC SOCIOLOGICAL REVIEW to the Rev. Frederic Siedenburgh, S.J., leader and pioneer in the field of sociology who died during the year.

The next convention of the ACSS will be held in the same city as that of the American Sociological Society. A continuation committee on problems of sociology and social work was appointed. The new officers of the Society are:

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The Most Reverend Edwin V. O'Hara, D.D.

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COMMITTEE ON THE PROBLEMS OF SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL
WORK

Frank T. Flynn, Ph.D., *Chairman*
University of Notre Dame, Indiana

Summaries of the round table discussions on high school and college sociology, and the student session held on the afternoon of December 27 at the second annual convention of the ACSS in Chicago.

Round Table on College Sociology

Discussion centered around the following topics: the place of sociology in the curriculum, content of the general course, courses included in the upper division, scholarships, graduate assistantships in our universities, preparation of teachers.

Participants in the discussion agreed that more emphasis should be placed on the study of sociology in our colleges and universities. The college curriculum has provided a place for the various sciences, mathematics, languages, business courses, etc., requiring a definite number of hours of credit for graduation, while sociology is still viewed today as an elective subject. Some of the speakers voiced their opinion that the time was ripe for some requirement in sociology for a degree, insofar as we are confronted with so many difficult social problems demanding a solution. Some of the speakers reminded us of the necessity of expounding the Papal Encyclicals as an obligation of Catholic colleges and universities in cooperating with papal program of reconstruction. (Loyola University of New Orleans requires 12 hours of sociology for the requirement of the A.B. and Ph.B. degrees; 6 hours for the B.S. degree in Education.)

Dr. Eva J. Ross spoke on the contents of the general course. Catholic social philosophy should be emphasized in the general course. The opinions of the various members of the group were so diversified that they were of little permanent value. Dr. Ross included an outline of upper division courses for the major.

Scholarships and graduate assistantships, it was generally agreed, were handicapped by the lack of funds in many of our colleges and universities.

The problem of the preparation of teachers was briefly discussed at the close of the meeting. A few speakers agreed that the lack of funds and facilities was a serious obstacle in the development of Catholic graduate departments.