The Documentation Section

In presenting a major address to the Catholic Press Association of the United States and Canada at its annual convention in Denver, Colorado, on 23 May 1997, Father Avery Dulles, S.J. said the following:

In addition to factual reporting the press has a responsibility to transmit the teaching of the Church. The Holy See and the bishops, along with various other commissions and conferences, are constantly issuing new documents that are intended to guide the lives of Christians. Only in rare cases are those documents accurately summarized in the secular press. Radio and television generally report at most brief excerpts torn out of context. Frequently they neutralize the Church's teaching by giving equal prominence to dissenting reactions. The Catholic press performs an invaluable service when it reprints such documents in full or in part, and when it gives in-depth coverage to writers and speakers who are seeking to implement the new evangelization for the third Christian millennium. . . (National Catholic Register, 8-14 June 1997, 4.)

The editors of the Documentation Section of The Catholic Social Science Review agree with Father Dulles regarding the Catholic press's responsibility to transmit the teaching of the Church. We must take on the challenge of making available to readers of our journal the kind of documentation that will help to fulfill that calling. In that context, and with consistent fealty to the vision of the Society of Catholic Social Scientists that all the faithful are enjoined to remain loyal to the Church's magisterium and the natural law, the Documentation Section offers articles and documents that are either reprints from previous publications or are ones originating with our own review.

However, envisioning documentation in a somewhat broader parameter, we also include in our coverage announcements and comments about activities and initiatives from within orthodox Roman Catholicism throughout the nation and in various other lands. This might include, among others, announcements of conferences, apostolic actions of Catholic individuals or groups, biography and bibliography notations, or, when warranted, in memoriams.

It is with considerable pleasure that we announce that our Editor-In-Chief, Dr. Joseph Varacalli, has appointed Dr. Mark Lowery of the Theology Faculty at the University of Dallas, to join us as an Assistant Editor for Documentation. Dr. Lowery brings to us great intellectual prowess, years of writing and teaching experience in the Catholic environment, and a proven faithfulness to
Roman Catholic tradition. We are elated that he will be with us.

The Documentation Section also benefits greatly from the dedicated work of Dr. Donald J. D’Elia, distinguished Professor of History at the State University of New York at New Paltz and renowned Catholic historian. Dr. D’Elia’s presence as a Consulting Editor for Reviews and Documentation has been indispensable to the Associate Editor, and his friendship is cherished.

Anyone desiring to submit articles, reprints, announcements, or other materials for publication consideration in the Documentation Section should send such to Dr. Patrick Foley, Associate Editor for Documentation, CSSR, 1113 Idlewood Avenue, Azle, Texas 76020-3647, fax 817-515-7007, or phone 817-237-9602.

You may also want to contact either Dr. Lowery at the University of Dallas, Theology Department, 1845 E. Northgate Drive, Irving, Texas 75062, or Dr. D’Elia at Department of History, State University of New York-New Paltz, New Paltz, New York 12561, fax 914-257-3009. Please take note of the “Guidelines for Contributors” printed in the first few pages of this issue of The Catholic Social Science Review.

-Patrick Foley

Associate Editor For Documentation