

EARLY YEARS OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL ECONOMICS

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INTRODUCTION

Early in 1941, Reverend Thomas F. Divine, S.J., Dean of the College of Business Administration at Marquette University, wrote to a number of economists proposing the establishment of an association of individuals interested "in bringing the principles of economic ethics into contact with economic reality." He received support for forming such an organization from 40 economists teaching at 30 colleges and universities, and in December 1941, at the annual meeting of the American Economic Association (AEA) in New York, the Catholic Economic Association (CEA), predecessor of the Association for Social Economics (ASE), was officially founded at a gathering of professors of economics from 15 colleges and universities.

There were others responding to Father Divine's 1941 letter who also approved the formation of a Catholic economic association, but with certain qualifications. One such individual, who later served as President of the CEA, raised the issue of the "divorce" or complete separation of economics and ethics. He questioned whether one could admit the existence of the concept of "Catholic economist." Another respondent, who was thoroughly in favor of forming the proposed association, commented "there is substantial agreement that no Catholic economic theory or teaching exists." He emphasized the only interest is the interrelationships of ethics and the acknowledged body of economic theory. He cautioned that the word "Catholic" might, but not necessarily, promote a false impression as if it were a special type of economic theory in which some Catholics are interested. He warned it might even create the viewpoint that straight economic theorizing should be discouraged.

An Organizing Committee with representatives from 22 universities and colleges and chaired by Father Divine was named at the December 1941 meeting following the establishment of the CEA. Among the total number

of professors on this Organizing Committee were 14 heads of departments of economics at Catholic Universities and at Barnard College, Columbia University.

ASSOCIATION OBJECTIVES

Msgr. John A. Ryan, retired professor at Catholic University and Honorary President of the Catholic Economic Association suggested in 1942 the following practical aims for members of the CEA: "To make the ethical aspect of economic doctrine as prominent as possible, and to study and recommend reforms in our institutions".

The Constitution of the CEA, adopted in 1943, listed the following aims and objectives of the Association: (1) develop scientific economic analysis, particularly in relationships of economic and other values; (2) discuss scientifically economic problems requiring a knowledge of both economic science and of Christian social principles; (3) clarify relationships of economic science to the other social sciences and disciplines, particularly Christian social philosophy; (4) evaluate in the light of Christian moral principles, the assumptions, methods and objectives of economic science; (5) assist in the formulation of practical programs for the application of Christian social principles; (6) encourage research, writing, publication and discussion for the achievement of the above objectives; (7) serve as a liaison group between American economists and foreign economists, particularly in South America, related to us by a common faith and philosophy of life.

Raymond J. Saulnier, Professor Emeritus, Barnard College, Columbia University, one of the founding members, and the second President of the CEA, responded to a recent inquiry as to what motivated interest in an association for Catholic economists. He said, "It would supply a focal point for gatherings of economists who were Catholic, provide a periodical vehicle for the publication of papers by members and others on subjects of particular interest to Catholics, and the annual meeting, which is held at the same time and place as the annual AEA meetings, would provide an opportunity for at least a day of meetings with papers by members and others."

RELATIONS WITH THE AMERICAN ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION

One of the aims of the founders of the CEA was to work in close cooperation with the American Economic Association (AEA) and to hold meetings jointly with them. Some of those who responded to Father Divine's letter inquiring as to views on establishing a Catholic Economic Association emphasized the importance of a close relationship with the AEA. They commented: "There should be no wide separation from AEA," "Be a group within the AEA in full sympathy with it and be recognized by it," "Follow the very fine example set by the Catholic Historical Association in its relationship with the American Historical Society."

The CEA annual meetings throughout the 1940s, although scheduled at the same time and city as the AEA, were held separately. As a result, CEA members could not participate in the AEA joint registration arrangement, the CEA program was not listed in the over-all joint program, and CEA meetings were not held in hotels where space had been reserved for the AEA. Meetings of the CEA were held in Catholic Colleges, Catholic schools and occasionally in hotels, when rooms were available, near AEA headquarters.

Following the establishment of the CEA, its representatives discussed with AEA officials their desire to meet jointly with the AEA. They were advised at that time that a few members of the AEA Executive Committee made it a matter of principle not to recognize any sectarian organization as qualifying for joint participation in AEA meetings. AEA officers advised against making a formal request for joint participation because, at that time, it was likely to be rejected, and thus established a formal precedent.

When Professor Josef Solterer of Georgetown University became President of the CEA in 1950, he assigned himself the task of obtaining recognition of the CEA as a participant in the joint annual meetings with the AEA. Professor Solterer discussed this matter with Professor Joseph A. Schumpeter of Harvard University, former President of the AEA in 1948. Solterer believed it was Schumpeter's influence in the AEA and elsewhere which resulted in an informal arrangement for the CEA to meet jointly with the AEA's annual meeting in Chicago in 1950. As the chairperson for the

CEA local arrangements committee for this meeting, I met with the AEA local arrangement chairperson who was responsible for working with representatives of associations meeting jointly with the AEA for that annual meeting. He arranged for CEA members to participate in joint registration procedure, the inclusion of the CEA program in the schedule of meetings in the joint overall program, and the assignment of hotel rooms for CEA meetings and members in the Palmer House where the AEA had their headquarters. The AEA was very cooperative and helpful in providing the CEA with the same consideration given representatives of the other participating organizations. The informal "courtesy" arrangement of participation by the AEA for the first time in the 1950 Chicago meeting became a precedent followed whenever a meeting was arranged jointly by the AEA with other associations.

In 1955, officials of the CEA were concerned since they had no formal assurance that the courtesy arrangement in operation since 1950 would continue. The Allied Social Science Association, which was responsible for arranging joint meetings for the AEA, had since been established, and the CEA considered making formal application for membership in this new organization. They were again informed that the adverse views of a few AEA Executive Board members continued to exist. However CEA officers were assured by the Secretary-Treasurer of the AEA that he saw no reason why the courtesy arrangement existing at that time for participation in annual meetings should not endure indefinitely. With this assurance, the AEA continued to operate under the courtesy arrangement.

The only further information I have on the recognition of the CEA as a participating association in joint meetings with the AEA relates to a later date than the close of the period covered in this report. The Executive Committee of the AEA decided in 1961, that it was necessary to cut down on the number of associations with whom they were prepared to have a joint annual meeting. This action was taken because the membership of the various associations had become too large to accommodate them all in one place. The CEA was one of the seven associations selected to continue to participate in joint meetings. The reason given for this selection was that

these organizations were closely related to the AEA and their membership largely overlapped that of the AEA.

WORLD WAR II PERIOD

The first four years of CEA operation were difficult ones. The Association was established a few weeks after the United States entered World War II. The officers of the Association had to cope with many problems and limitations placed upon them by a war economy. The Organizing Committee proceeded to carry out the responsibility of placing into operation a functioning organization. This committee of 27 individuals was selected, for the most part, from individuals who had responded to Father Divine's 1941 inquiry concerning interest in the formation of the CEA and from suggested names offered by those who met with Father Divine in December 1941 when the CEA was founded. Many of the members of this Organizing Committee became officers and leaders of programs placed into operation.

In 1942, invitations to join the Association were sent to prospective members whose names were submitted for the most part by the Organizing Committee. Over 60 percent, or 140 of these individuals accepted the invitation to join the Association as charter members. Of these 140 individuals, 60 percent were lay persons, 60 were students, 80 percent of the charter members who gave information concerning their employment were faculty members of 60 colleges and universities, and 92 percent were teaching in Catholic colleges. There were a large number of small colleges represented, and only three of the 60 colleges and universities had more than three charter members on their faculty -- Notre Dame University had ten, and the University of Detroit and St. Joseph College in Indiana, each had six charter members. Only eight of the charter members taught in other than Catholic institutions: Arthur E. Monroe and Edward Chamberlin at Harvard; David McCabe at Princeton; Raymond J. Saulnier at Barnard, Columbia; James E. Hagerty at Ohio State; John T. Madden and Howard Howe at New York University; and John McMahon at Allegheny College. Reference sources indicate that the majority of the initial membership were Catholics.

Father Divine worked with the Organizing Committee to prepare a

draft of the CEA Constitution and By Laws. The Constitution vested control of the Association in an Executive Council composed of the President, two Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, and two additional Council members, all elected annually for a one year term. The retiring President then served as a member of the Executive Council. Fees established in the original Constitution were \$2.00 annually for active and \$1.00 for student membership. The Constitution states that anyone interested in the aims and objectives of the Association, on the recommendation of a member, shall be eligible for membership. Before the end of 1943 the Constitution had been formally approved by the Charter membership. Father Divine, the founder of the CEA, was elected to serve as its first president in 1943.

The first and only Honorary President of the CEA was Rt. Rev. Msgr. John A. Ryan, who had retired two years earlier after serving 24 years on the faculty of Catholic University. Msgr. Ryan became Director, Department of Social Action, National Catholic Welfare Conference, following his retirement from Catholic University. He had written and spoken widely on Catholic social thought. Msgr. Ryan continued as Honorary President until his death in 1945.

The officers who served the CEA during World War II were:

1943	President	Father Divine
	Vice President	Rev. Bernard Dempsey, S.J., Saint Louis University
		Edward H. Chamberlin, Harvard University
	Secretary	William Downey, Notre Dame University
	Treasurer	Lloyd E. Fitzgerald, University of Detroit
1944	President	Raymond J. Saulnier, Barnard College, Columbia University
	Vice President	Rev. Bernard Dempsey, S.J., Saint Louis University
		Elizabeth Morrissey, College of Notre Dame of Maryland
	Secretary	William Downey, Notre Dame University
	Treasurer	Lloyd E. Fitzgerald, University of Detroit
1945	President	Rev. Bernard Dempsey, S.J. Saint Louis University

Vice President	Paul Fitzpatrick, Catholic University Rev. John F. Cronin, S.S., St. Mary's Seminary
Secretary	Alice Bourneuf, Federal Reserve Board
Treasurer	Lloyd E. Fitzgerald, University of Detroit

A program had been arranged, with subjects and speakers assigned, for presentation during Christmas week in Cleveland where the AEA had scheduled their 1942 annual meeting. News arrived in December that the AEA had cancelled this meeting in accordance with the wishes of the Office of Defense Transportation. The CEA took similar action in the interest of the war effort. The papers prepared for that meeting were issued in Volume I of the Review of Social Economy.

With the exception of the Cleveland 1942 meeting earlier, regular annual meetings were held during the War period by the CEA at the same time and city as the AEA meetings although not as joint meetings. These annual meetings were held in Washington, D.C. (Jan. 1944), Chicago, (Dec. 1945) and Cleveland, (Jan. 1946). The Washington and Cleveland January meetings, differed from the pre-war practice of holding AEA meetings in late December. This change was made because of wartime restrictions on travel. The papers given at these meetings and those prepared for the first meeting in 1942 were published in the early volumes of the Review of Social Economy.

In addition to holding successful national meetings and publishing the Review of Social Economy during the difficult War period, the Association was successful in recruiting a substantial membership. The officers emphasized that the life of a young organization is generally based on membership income. Many of the 140 members who responded to the initial membership invitation also cooperated in an intensive and successful membership drive launched in 1943 under the leadership of Rev. J.C. Bartley, O.S.A., Dean of Commerce and Finance, Villanova University. A recruiting pamphlet was prepared which included the aims and objectives of the CEA and provided information on the history of the Association. This campaign resulted in the addition of 100 members to the CEA. Gift memberships were provided by a member of the Executive Council in 1944 to

62 individuals in South and Central America and to 35 others who lived in the United States.

A major problem experienced by the CEA under the unfavorable conditions of a war economy was one of financing. The \$2.00 annual membership dues established when the CEA was founded remained in effect throughout the War years. The greatest expense incurred during this War period involved the printing cost of the Review of Social Economy. A donation of \$200 was received in the form of a deduction for the cost of printing the Review by the Marquette University Press. This contribution was provided as an expression of their good wishes for its success. A \$50 donation was also made by one of the charter members.

The Executive Council, provided for in the Constitution, held four meetings during the War Period. Some of the major subjects considered at these meetings indicate a very early interest in the importance of holding sectional meetings. This subject was discussed at each of the meetings of the Executive Council during this period. Consideration was given to the possibility of having regional committees established to consider the desirability of holding regional meetings in selected areas. These committees, it was argued, would assist in creating interest, in enlarging the membership, in encouraging writing for publication in the Review, as well as in projecting an overall regional plan. A suggestion was also made that the Association sponsor a general National meeting at which comprehensive studies characteristic of the exigencies of the time be considered. This resembles the proposal for an Association conference to be held in June 1984, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on the topic, Community Dimensions of Economic Enterprise.

The Review of Social Economy was another subject discussed extensively at these early meetings of the Executive Council. Concern was expressed by Council members over delays in getting out the Review during the War period. It was strongly urged that action be taken to assure prompt publication in the future. The curtailment in allocations of paper under wartime regulations and the difficulty of forecasting costs made it impossible to consider more than one annual issue at that time. It was

emphasized, however, that the majority of Association members received direct benefits from the Association only through the Review. At the final meeting at the close of the War, it was agreed that dues should be raised sufficiently to enable the Association to proceed very quickly in publishing the Review on a quarterly basis.

Some members near the end of the War period, stressed the need for greater active participation of the membership in the management of the Association, with less control by the Executive Council. This matter was discussed at the December 1944 meeting of the Executive Council. The question of having a business meeting of the membership as part of the program of the annual meeting was studied. It was decided that the present plan offered no opportunity for members at the annual meetings to develop personal relationships nor did it give the required time to express opinions. As a result, the first general meeting for all members was made part of the program at the January 1946 annual meeting. This became a precedent for future annual meetings. The major issue acted upon at that general meeting involved the question of declaration of policy by the Association on public questions. This issue arose with respect to the policy of the United States in the rehabilitation of Germany following the War. It was decided that the Association should go no further than to furnish the occasion, at its annual meetings and in its publications, for discussion of current public issues.

Father Divine commented in 1942 in the first volume of the Association's Proceedings in the Review of Social Economy, on the origin of the Catholic Economic Association. He stated the primary aims of the Association were "the scientific discussion of problems of economic policy, the solution of which requires a knowledge both of economic science and of Christian social principles and the formulation of sound and practical programs of Christian social policy." He then concluded, "It was owing to the belief of the organizers of the CEA in the special timeliness and need for discussions of this character in the field of postwar economic problems that the unfavorable conditions of a war economy were not permitted to delay the establishment of the proposed Association."

This brief review of the formative War period has given us an

appreciation of the contributions made by so many in making the CEA a reality. Father Divine, Professor Raymond Saulnier and Father Bernard Dempsey, S.J., the officers and Executive Council members and the many other founding members during this period gave unstintingly of their time, efforts and abilities to assure the success of the Organization. The number of founding members of the CEA who were well known and highly respected in the field of economics was an important factor contributing to the early recognition of the Organization. Professor Saulnier recently commented, in reply to my inquiry about recollections on the founding of the CEA, "Father Dempsey at St. Louis University and Father Divine at Marquette were the people with whom I was most closely associated in the beginning of the Catholic Economic Association, both of them first rate economists."

POST WAR PERIOD - 1946-50

During the five years following the end of World War II, many of the programs and changes proposed and discussed earlier were put into operation.

The following served as Presidents during this period:

Rev. John F. Cronin, S.S., Saint Mary's Seminary
Louis F. Buckley, Social Security Board
Rev. Edward C. Killeen, O.P., Saint Norbert College
Rev. Leo C. Brown, S.J., St. Louis University
Joseph Solterer, Georgetown University

The Vice Presidents during this period were:

Rev. George Higgins, National Catholic Welfare Conference
Constantine McGuire, Economic Consultant, Washington, DC
David McCabe, Princeton University
John Sheehan, Notre Dame University
Elizabeth Morrissey, Notre Dame of Maryland College
Paul J. Fitzpatrick, Catholic University
Sister M. Ignatius, S.N.D., Notre Dame College, Ohio
Rev. Jerome L. Toner, O.S.B., Saint Louis University
Rev. Leo C. Brown, S.J., Saint Louis University
Josef Solterer, Georgetown University

Rev. Leo C. Brown, S.J., St. Louis University and Rev. Cletus F.

Dirksen, C.P.P.S., St. Joseph College, Indiana, served as Secretary-Treasurer in 1946-47 and 1948-51 respectively.

Two of the presidents and two of the vice presidents during the Post War Period were not charter members, as were all the officers in the earlier period. All the presidents during the formative period were professors in large universities while in the Post War period, two were from small colleges and one from government. Only four of the eight who served as president from 1943 through 1950 are now living. Elizabeth Morrissey, a charter member and a vice-president in both periods, was the first woman to receive a Ph.D. in Political Economy (1930) from The John Hopkins University.

Annual meetings of the CEA were held in the following cities during this post war period: Cleveland (Jan. 1946), Atlantic City (Jan. 1947), Chicago (Dec. 1947), Cleveland (Dec. 1948), New York City (Dec. 1949), and Chicago (Dec. 1950).

In 1947, a survey of the membership indicated that 63 percent agreed that regional meetings should be held, 19 percent were against the proposal, and the remainder had some reservations. They emphasized that the meetings should be well planned, and that they should begin on an experimental basis to determine if there would be a sufficient demand for them to assure their success. The Executive Committee, in light of this survey, authorized the President to appoint regional chairpersons. My references indicate that successful meetings were held in 1948 through 1950 in Washington, D.C., Boston, Pittsburgh, Detroit, and Chicago.

Attendance at these local meetings varied from 30 to 80. The Boston regional meetings included individuals from Rhode Island, Connecticut, and many areas in Massachusetts. The New England Regional Group also held meetings at Providence College. Representatives from other than Catholic colleges in the area were often present and sometimes were speakers on the program. An evening meeting was held in Washington with 66 present, while monthly luncheon meetings were successful in the Pittsburgh area.

Ethical aspects of economic thought were the subjects most frequently discussed at these meetings. For example, the subject at an early Boston

meeting was "Keynesian Policies and Christian Social Teaching" discussed by Francis Doody of Boston University and Vincent Wright of Boston College. Subjects relating to labor economics were sometimes considered, such as "The Role of the Association of Catholic Trade Unions (ACTU)" by Philip Taft of Brown University, at a meeting of the New England regional group. Sometimes, subjects covering a wide scope were discussed such as "Reflections on the Purposes of Economic Life" by Joseph Solterer of Georgetown University, at one of the Washington, D.C. meetings. Subjects relation to the teaching of economics were sometimes discussed such as "Scope of Ethics in Principles of Economics" at the Detroit meeting. Emphasis was sometimes given to diverse current problems in the Pittsburgh meetings, such as wages in that area, and parity for farmers. Aspects of the role of government in economic life were examined by Rev. Cletus Dirksen of St. Joseph's College and John Sheehan of Notre Dame University at a meeting in Chicago.

Rev. Cletus F. Dirksen, C.P.P.S., as Secretary-Treasurer of the CEA, did outstanding work in promoting and encouraging the introduction and extension of local and regional meetings and in reporting on these activities during his tenure. Rev. Robert J. McEwen, S.J., of Boston College was primarily responsible for the Boston meetings which were the earliest, and most frequently held during this period. Rev. Charles Quirk, O.P., of Providence College assisted in extending this Boston meeting to the New England group. Paul Fitzpatrick and Joseph Solterer served as chairpersons on a committee responsible for the Washington, D.C. meetings. Rev. Carl Henster and Heien Potter, both of Seton Hall College, served as general chairpersons and secretaries for the Pittsburgh meetings. Later, Helen Potter was active in the San Francisco and Chicago area meetings. Detroit area meetings were arranged under the joint chairmanship of Norman Stocker, University of Detroit, and Sister Jane Mary, I.H.M., Marygrove College. The Chicago meeting was under the joint chairmanship of Anabel Scanlon, Loyola University, and Louis Buckley, U.S. Department of Labor and Loyola University.

Again, the most serious problem encountered by the CEA from its

founding in 1941 through 1948 was a financial one. The \$2.00 annual dues still in effect throughout this period, barely provided sufficient funds to operate. The cash balance at the end of the year varied from a low of \$134 to \$593 prior to 1947. Dues were finally increased to \$5.00 annually, effective in 1949, which raised the cash balance at the end of that year for the first time to over \$1000 and to nearly \$1500 in 1950. In 1949, 326 members paid the dues of \$5.00, and 1949 also marked the first time in which two issues of the Review of Social Economy were published.

THE DECADE OF THE 1950s

The Catholic Economic Association entered its second decade as a firmly established organization having more than doubled its charter membership. Beginning in 1950, an arrangement had been established for full participation of the CEA in the annual meetings of the AEA, and adjustments in membership dues and the increase in membership had improved the prospects for more adequate financing.

The following people served during this decade as both Vice Presidents and Presidents:

John H. Sheehan, Notre Dame University
Rev. Raymond J. Miller, C.S.S.R., Immaculate Conception
Seminary
Frederich Baerwald, Fordham University
Walter Forelich, Marquette University
Rev. Emile Bouvier, S.J., Georgetown University
Goetz A. Briefs, Georgetown University
Rev. Mark Fitzgerald, C.S.C., Notre Dame University
Charles J. Walsh, Washington, D.C.
Rev. Jerome L. Toner, O.S.B., Saint Martin's College
Philomena A. Mullady, Loyola University of Chicago.

Other Vice Presidents include:

Rev. Louis Baska, O.S.B., Saint Benedict College
Sister M. Thomasine, O.P., Rosary College
Francis J. Brown, DePaul University
Rev. Richard Mulcahy, S.J., Alma College
Sister Mary Alexine Beatty, S.S.J., Regis College
Raymond De Roover, Boston College
Paul Montavon, Notre Dame University
Rev. John W. Miller, Saint Louis University

Donald White, Boston College
Rev. Thomas J. McDonagh, C.S.C. Notre Dame University

Sister M. Yolande, O.S.F., College of Saint Theresa, and Rev. Robert J. McEwen, S.J., Boston College served as Secretary and Treasurer in 1951-57 and 1958-64 respectively.

The first major change in the Constitution was made in 1952 when three paragraphs of the original Article I, Aims and Objectives, were deleted. (Article I of the original Constitution and the major changes made in 1970 are noted at the end of this article.) The deleted paragraphs, emphasized the objectives of furthering the development of scientific economic analyses and of scientifically discussing problems of economic policy. The vote of the membership in 1952 in favor of deleting the first two paragraphs of Article I was overwhelming. Paragraph 7 of Article I of the Constitution, which also was deleted, provided for the CEA to serve as a liaison group with foreign economists particularly in South America. Shortly after the establishment of the CEA a member of the Executive Council provided gift Association memberships to individuals in South and Central America. Joseph Solterer during his term as President, arranged for a member of the Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores in Monterey, N.L. Mexico to serve as editor of a Spanish edition of the Review of Social Economy. Since interest in continuing this project declined, the program was discontinued prior to the deletion of Paragraph 7 of the Constitution. The original Article V of the Constitution, which provided for the Executive Council, was amended in 1952 by increasing the number of Executive members from two to seven in addition to the officers. The change also extended the terms of Council members so that they are elected annually for a term of two years rather than one year.

Sister Yolande established a precedent while she was Secretary-Treasurer in 1952 by issuing the first Newsletter. It was mimeographed and contained news notes on individual members relating to promotions, publications, listing of new members and changes of address. It also contained information on annual meetings and activities of regional organizations. The Newsletter, which continues to be issued, has contributed to interest in and development of the organization.

The expansion of membership in the 1950s was a major accomplishment. Membership increased to 560 in 1955. Father Bouvier, during his term as Vice-President and President, initiated another successful membership drive. An information booklet, describing the history, purposes, annual meetings, and regional organizations was used in this membership project. Sister Yolande, Secretary-Treasurer, also assisted in the membership promotion programs during the 1950s.

It is interesting to compare certain aspects of the 1955 membership with those of the Charter membership in the early 1940s. Laypersons accounted for 71 percent of the 1955 membership compared with 58 percent of the Charter members in the early 1940s. Priests, as a percentage of total membership, declined from 32 percent of the Charter members to 20 percent in 1955. The percentage of sisters and brothers remained the same, seven percent and two percent respectively. It appeared that only very few of the members were other than Catholics as was the estimate made in the 1940s. The only member in the 1940s who specifically identified himself as not being a Catholic joined due to his interest in becoming acquainted with the views of Catholics in the field of economics. There was no information that I could find to indicate that the joint meeting of the CEA with the AEA and other Allied Associations in the 1950s had resulted in increasing the number of the members who were not Catholics.

Eighty members in 1955 were located in 20 foreign countries. Most of this membership was in Canada, South America, Europe, and Mexico. The number of regional organizations increased from the five referred to earlier to 11 in the 1950s. Regional directors functioned in new areas such as Minnesota, Iowa, New York Metropolitan and Western New York, St. Louis, San Francisco and San Antonio. These regional organizations, as was true of those organized in the 1940s, arranged for meetings in their areas which were well attended and provided excellent speakers. They were effective also in recruitment of new members for the Association.

Closer cooperation between the CEA and other Catholic social science groups was the subject of discussion at Executive Council meetings in the 1950s. A National Council of Catholic Societies was established in 1952

which included the American Catholic Sociological Society, American Catholic Philosophical Association, Catholic Historical Society, and the Catholic Business Education Association. Sister Yolande represented the CEA on the National Council.

An important suggestion was made at a 1950 meeting of the Executive Council that "perhaps non-Catholics" might also appear on the CEA programs. The following well-known economists who were not members of the Association were among those who spoke at the annual meetings in the 1950s: Arthur F. Burns, Columbia University; J.M. Clark, Columbia University; David McCord Wright, University of Virginia; and Edwin E. Witte, University of Wisconsin.

Joseph McKenna of the University of Minnesota led a long discussion at the September 1959 Executive Council meeting concerning the purpose of the CEA and the appropriateness of retaining the name of the Association. In addition to the changes made in the Constitution by deleting paragraphs relating to purposes or objectives of the CEA, further restatement of Association purposes continued to be discussed throughout the decade. This discussion of the appropriateness of retaining the name of the Association is the first reference I have noted on this important subject. This was a decade before a decision was finally made to change the name of the Catholic Economic Association to the Association for Social Economics.

CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS

The decision made by Father Thomas Divine, S.J. late in 1941 to establish the Catholic Economic Association and the realization of that objective by the end of that year was truly an outstanding accomplishment. Father Divine was aware that a small group of economists from Catholic colleges and universities had discussed the founding of a similar organization in the early 1930s. Msgr. John Ryan recalled that the unanimous negative attitude toward that proposal was based mainly upon the scarcity of Catholics in the field of economics at that time; in contrast, Father Divine received unanimous favorable response in 1941 when he proposed the formation of the CEA. The recruiting of 144 charter members in 1942 confirmed Father

Divine's confidence in the anticipated wide interest existing in the newly formed organization.

Despite the unfavorable conditions of a war economy, the Association functioned successfully under Father Divine's leadership in arranging elections of officers, regular meetings of the Executive Council and in providing programs and speakers at the annual meetings where emphasis was placed on post war economic problems. There appeared to be general agreement with Father Divine's statement that these first fruits of the CEA as a reality at least gave promise of fulfilling the hopes and justifying the confidence of its founders. The Review of Social Economy was published annually during the War period despite the increase in cost and the problem of financing.

Following the formation of the CEA and his term as President, Father Divine continued his career of service to the CEA as ex officio member of the Executive Committee in 1944 and 1945 and then became a member of the Board of Editors and the Editor-in-Chief of the Review of Social Economy from 1948 to 1959, the end of the period covered by this paper.

Father Divine began his teaching career as a faculty member with the Department of Economics at Marquette University in 1933 and served as Dean of the College of Business Administration there from 1942-50. He was founder and director of the Marquette Labor College in 1942. Also from 1942 through 1944 he was a public member of the National War Labor Board in the Wisconsin region. It is interesting that all of these assignments were carried out during the period he was establishing the CEA. Father Divine's best known publication is his book entitled Interest published in 1959. This historical and analytical study in economics and modern ethics was the subject of his Ph.D. thesis at the University of London in 1938.

It is gratifying when relatively new members of the ASE express their interest in an appreciation for the foresight of those who, over 40 years ago, recognized the importance of social economics as an important field of specialization for economists. Members who have joined the ASE in recent years sometimes inquire as to why the earlier Association selected the name of Catholic Economic Association. Background information on the interest

and concern of Catholics in the social and moral aspects of economic matters should be recognized in considering this question. The American Catholic Bishops had issued statements relating to the social aspects of economic problems including a statement in 1940 entitled "The Church and the Social Order." A precedent was set by the formation of Catholic Associations in the other social sciences such as sociology and history, which also may have been a minor factor involved in the name adopted for the CEA.

One possible factor in explaining the relatively large number of professors from small Catholic Colleges who became charter members and officers of the CEA could be the letters which were sent by the College Department of the National Catholic Education Association in 1932 to 163 Catholic colleges emphasizing the importance of courses in economics and other social sciences for all students. In addition, in view of the established Catholic interest in the social aspects of economics, Father Divine no doubt decided that economists in Catholic colleges and universities were the best source for potential membership in the organization he hoped to establish.

The Social Action Department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, under the direction of Msgr. John Ryan, also had encouraged participation of economists in programs designed to secure social justice in the operation of the economic system. Officers of the CEA, such as Father John Cronin and Father George Higgins were directors of the Social Action Department of the Catholic Welfare Conference.

It appears that the identification of the Association as Catholic was very helpful in the formative years in establishing an effective organization. However, by using "Catholic" in the title and by the references to "Christian moral principles" in the objectives stated in the Constitution, the organization was considered by some to be a sectarian rather than an economic organization. In reviewing the formative years of the CEA, the absence of participation by other than Catholics in our Association is noted. I recall a meeting of the National Conference of Catholic Charities in 1932 where it was emphasized that Catholics concerned with problems involving social justice should recognize that our

obligation is to the entire social body. Consequently our interests needed to be integrated with those of different faiths. It was not until the 1950s that economists who were not Catholics appeared on the program of speakers at annual meetings of the CEA. As far as I am aware, no formal positive action was taken in the 1940s and 1950s to encourage other than Catholics to join the Association or to attend our meetings. A study of the CEA in the 1960s should be of particular interest, since during that period action was taken which resulted in the change in name of the organization in 1970.

Two CEA presidents in the 1950s, Professor Josef Solterer and Father Emile Bouvier, S.J., responded to my recent request for an evaluation of the Association during the period covered by this paper. They both served the Association in many capacities. Father Emile Bouvier, S.J., Professor Emeritus, University of Sherbrooke, wrote from Canada, that his main concern in economics was to create a link between economic theory and social values. This interest in social economic theory was discussed by Father Bouvier with J.M. Clark, David McCord Wright, and Kenneth Boulding. Their general reaction, according to Father Bouvier, was "rather negative as the basic principles were opposite from liberal economics and social economics."

Josef Solterer, wrote from Washington, D.C. and expressed concern over "the interest of the membership of the Association remaining secular, i.e. short term." He mentions preoccupation in matters involving unemployment and inflation as examples of this "secular interest." It is his contention that "there has been no serious theoretical work done involving long run, i.e. enduring questions, such as those concerning the relation of economics and ethics." As a result, he maintains that social economists still have no theory. Josef Solterer also regrets the loss of interest in the Association serving as a liaison group between American and foreign economists, particularly in South America. He believes that interest in the world liaison is the spatial analogue of interest in the long run. Professor Solterer concluded his most recent letter with this pertinent observation. "But still, despite everything, the Association is alive. Good things last."

ARTICLE I OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE
CATHOLIC ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION

Provision of Article I in the original constitution, 1943 to June 1, 1970:

ARTICLE I

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aims and objectives of the Catholic Economic Association shall be:

1. To further the development of scientific economic analysis in all its aspects, particularly in the neglected field of relationships of economic and other values.
2. To discuss scientifically problems of economic policy, the solution of which requires a knowledge both of economic science and of Christian social principles.
3. To clarify the relationships of economic science to the other social sciences and disciplines, particularly Christian social philosophy.
4. To evaluate in the light of Christian moral principles the assumptions, institutions, methods, objectives, etc. of economic science.
5. To assist in the formulation of practical programs for the application of Christian social principles.
6. To foster and encourage research, writing and publication, as well as discussion at regular intervals, for the achievement of the objectives listed above.
7. To serve as liaison group between American economists, administrators and others interested in our disciplines, and the large body of foreign economists, particularly in South America, related to us by a common faith and philosophy of life.

ARTICLE I

(as Amended June 1, 1970)

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aims and objectives of the Association for Social Economics shall be:

1. To foster research and publication centered on the reciprocal relationship between economic science and broader questions of human dignity, ethical values, and social philosophy. The

Association strives to encourage the efforts of all scholars who are dedicated to exploring the ethical presuppositions and implications of economic science.

2. To consider the personal and social dimensions of economic problems and to assist in the formulation of economic policies consistent with a concern for ethical values in a pluralistic community and the demands of personal dignity.
3. To meet annually in conjunction with the Allied Social Science Associations and locally at such times as are appropriate, to discuss and publicize current socio-economic issues and scholarly achievements having to do with the objectives of the Association.