Our plenary session has as subject “The Discovery of Being as Being” (the second plenary so named). St. Thomas’s doctrine of the perfection of first known being, particularly as presented in the *Summa theologiae* 1-2 treatment of the development of wisdom as most noble of intellectual virtues, has been largely ignored. I will propose its importance for the development of metaphysics. In the same context St. Thomas presents the coming to be of a science as the arriving at its first conclusion. I will contend that this event, as regards the science which is metaphysics, has received insufficient attention.

Lawrence Dewan, O.P.