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Guild Notes

Catholic Physicians' Guild

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GUILD NOTES

BROOKLYN GUILD—At a recent meeting of the Executive Committee, the President and Secretary were directed to lodge a vigorous protest with the General Electric Company, because their radio commentator, Dorothy Thompson, urged support of the movement to send ammunition to so-called Loyalist Spain. The protest called attention to the thousands of priests and nuns murdered by the Loyalists, and to the many churches destroyed by them. This splendid piece of Catholic Action brought a lengthy reply from the Company explaining that as soon as their attention had been called to the controversial subject of their commentator's speech, they had communicated with the National Council of Catholic Men and at the next radio hour had read a statement prepared by the Council.

NEW ORLEANS GUILD—The Guild was honored by His Excellency Archbishop Rummel in being named as the Health Committee of the 8th National Eucharistic Congress. Each member was given two hours of active duty during the Congress and we are proud to report that each of the seventy-four physicians appeared at the place and hour designated—and on time—a truly wonderful record. Many became so interested that they returned each day of the Congress, volunteering many extra hours of service.

Dr. John Signorelli, Secretary of the Guild in 1937, was called to his heavenly reward at the height of his career, being only forty-nine years of age when he succumbed to pneumonia. He was Professor of Pediatrics at Louisiana State University, Medical Center, and medical director of the parish public school system. The officers of the Federation well remember Dr. Signorelli's cooperation in arranging for the Convention of the Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds in Atlantic City, June, 1937.

BELLEVILLE GUILD—An interesting meeting was held at the Hotel Belle-

ville on St. Valentine's Day. By common consent, the meeting was pronounced the best held thus far. Dr. Kane, the retiring President, was in the chair. The speaker was Attorney Kevin Kane of East St. Louis, who spoke on the health program, issuing a stirring call "not to sit idly by and let a bill like the one under consideration which will destroy the medical practice, be passed without some form of protest to the Congress of the United States." He called the indictment of the A. M. A. and a group of doctors for engaging in a monopoly in the district courts of Columbia, a most disgraceful incident. The members unanimously agreed to put themselves on record as being opposed to the President's Health Plan, and to write their Senators and Congressmen to this effect.

The Guild regrets the loss of one of its most distinguished members, Dr. B. H. Portuendo, a Knight of St. Gregory, and first President of the Guild, who died on March 9th. As Bishop Althoff, who visited him during his illness, and who officiated at the Pontifical High Mass of Requiem, said, "He was always a devout and faithful member of the Church. As a member of the medical profession, he was known not only for his ability, but also for his kindness and charity. May the Lord grant him eternal rest."

WILMINGTON GUILD—The Wilmington Guild held its regular meeting on Monday, January 9th, at St. Francis Hospital. The President, Dr. Willard Preston, opened the meeting, which was a novel one, containing both lecture and entertainment. Dr. Walsh, a keen student of hypnosis, gave a brilliant discussion of the history, principles, technique, and appreciation of this science. The Very Rev. J. F. Tucker, always a welcome speaker, discussed the talk and clarified the viewpoint of the Church. Dr. Walsh gave a convincing illustration of hypnosis. Entertainment was further supplied by Mr. Bart Strazzella, a well-known sword swallower.