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Letters to the Editor ...

Catholic Physicians' Guilds

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Letters To The Editor . . .

Brief communications are welcome and will be printed as space permits, subject to the usual editing.

TO THE EDITOR:

Dr. John Kelly, a CMMB volunteer, presently serving at St. Luke's Hospital in Nigeria has informed us that he has sent an article to LQ. He mentions that he suggests in the article, among other suggestions, that the Catholic Medical Mission Board consider having a physician on our Board of Directors and, also, that there be more co-operation between CMMB and the Catholic Physicians' Guilds. (The article appears elsewhere in this issue.)

Even though CMMB does not have a physician on its Board of Directors, we do have a Medical Advisory Council, made up of many physicians with whom we are in constant contact concerning our program here. Naturally, we keep in closer touch with those members of the Council who are in the New York area. Some of these physicians you may know very well: Dr. Louis Rousselot, Dr. August Groeschel, Dr. Bernard Pisani, Dr. Hugh Grady, and others. Besides these, we depend very heavily upon those physicians who have served overseas for long tours of service for guidance in our placement work.

During the past two years, CMMB and the National Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds have been in close cooperation with various programs and, as you know, we are assisting separate Guilds which

are presently setting up medical missionary programs, so we do feel that we do have a very close relationship with the Guilds.

GEORGE R. KISH

Placement Director, CMMB

TO THE EDITOR:

I must send my congratulations on your February issue, which has just come here. It is undoubtedly the best thing I have yet seen from a Catholic source. Reading the usual Catholic professional journal is, I must confess, a duty more than a pleasure because the articles tend to be tedious, repetitive and poorly written but those in this issue were inspiring. The accounts of the medical missionaries were most touching. The papers indicated that although the Catholics are "a little slow in getting started" they possess a great momentum. No other medical journal could convey such a vital picture of members who are compassionate, spiritual and strong.

H. P. DUNN, M.D.

Auckland, New Zealand

TO THE EDITOR:

I think it would be well if THE LINACRE QUARTERLY made some statements in regard to the work of McLean Morris and Gertrude Van Wagenen, of Yale, who are reported by *Time* and by the *Reader's Digest* to have used diethyl stilbesterol in volunteers to prevent implantation of the fertilized ovum ("the morn-

ing-after-pill"). I think the public should be informed that this is abortion, pure and simple. The fertilized ovum is prevented from being implanted in the uterus and thus prevented from growing. I have not yet read any public statement by a Catholic physician, pointing out that this is abortion, not contraception.

ISOLDE T. ZECKWER, M.D.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Rt. Rev. Msgr. P. V. Harrington,
J.C.L.
Vice-Officialis, Archdiocese of Boston

I have requested several copies of your articles 1, 2, and 3 on abortion from THE LINACRE QUARTERLY. I am preparing an article for publication in the *Hawaii Medical Journal* in this next issue since the softening

up process through the Medical Society and press has already begun in our State.

I would ask your permission to quote liberally from your articles with, of course, acknowledgment in the bibliography.

It is my intent to have points of your articles read into the minutes of the various Catholic organizations represented in this diocese of our State and requesting political support of our Catholic men in the coming election and the 1967 Legislature.

I am greatly impressed with the completeness of your articles and hope that your approach will be forthcoming.

W. N. BERGIN, M.D.
Hilo, Hawaii