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## Notes and Comments

Catholic Physicians' Guild

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which arrangements will be settled for a lecture meeting for the first part of the year, and for a retreat or a Communion meeting in the early spring. The dues for 1933 have been reduced to three dollars, this to include the defraying of the expenses of the Guild, the per capita tax to the Federation, and the subscription to the new quarterly journal. It is hoped that each Catholic physician in Manhattan will pay dues the coming year. The greater the number paying dues the less these dues would be, the expenses of the organization being small. The main thing in this is that you encourage the officers to carry on this most worthy work, and you show that you want to do your part to carry on God's and Christ's work in the profession.

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### CATHOLIC PHYSICIANS' GUILD OF THE BRONX

**T**HE Catholic Physicians' Guild of the Bronx held their first meeting for the season of 1932-33 at Fordham University, Sunday, November 13, 1932.

Mass was celebrated at 9 A. M. in the College Chapel, followed by breakfast in the College Refectory. The guest speaker was Reverend Father LeBuffe, S.J., whose address was on the subject of "Evolution." Several matters of importance were presented at this meeting.

Their Reverend Moderator, Ignatius W. Cox, S.J., is giving a series of conferences on "The Mystical Christ and the Modern World," each Sunday in November, at the University Church, at 4 P. M.

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### NOTES AND COMMENTS

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*How True.*—"Nothing is more necessary in Catholic philosophy than the elucidation of the formula that 'the spiritual soul of man is not an efficient cause but it is a formal cause.' The soul of man being completely immaterial, being directly created by God in each instance, in no wise supersedes or renders useless the operation of the laws known

to science concerning human heredity, biology, psychology and so on. All our trouble comes from that we imagine the spirit, the human soul, to be an efficient cause in man, whereas it is only a formal cause, or, I rather should say, when it has the higher office of formal cause, because in that instance it is a greater thing to be formal cause than to be efficient cause."—REV. ANSCAR VONIER, O.B.S.

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*Eugenists and Birth Controllers, Answer These.*—"Why is it that the practice of medicine proves that the vast majority of married women who are neurasthenic are users of contraceptives, some of their husbands living awful existences owing to neurotic wives fighting against nature; and yet they tell us that contraceptives are harmless.

"The Chairman of Quarter Sessions of a large town was recently approached by some women social workers who put the following problem to him: They had noticed every Saturday for some weeks a number of girls from the ages of fifteen to eighteen passing up a passage at the back of a hairdresser's shop. On getting into conversation with one of them they discovered that it was the usual practice for them to call on a Saturday evening and be fitted with contraceptive appliances. The good women were very disappointed when told that, as the law now stands, there could be no course of action against the hairdresser."—D. S. MELVILLE, *National Life*.

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*Most Worth While.*—"Since the Holy Father's Encyclical on Catholic Action, there is none more important and far-reaching than Catholic action on the part of the medical men and those on a hospital staff. The Church has contributed many illustrious names in all countries and at all times to medical science who have stood before an admiring world as beacons of enlightenment, pillars of unshaken truth and heroes of scientific progress. To give to Catholic physicians encouragement through intellectual and social contact, to give incentives for progressive excellence in their lives and to contribute mutual strength by associations, Catholic Physicians' Guilds were organized. Such guilds give special stress and put into practice the necessary relationship between medicine and theology. For these reasons, at the last convention of the Catholic Hospitals Association, unanimous endorsement of the Catholic Physicians' Guilds was made. We hope that many of our hospitals will themselves be centers for the formation and maintenance of Catholic Physicians' Guilds."—A. M. S., S.J.

*Coming Back to God at Last.*—The Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, Summers, said: "There is no mystery about why we are in the conditions in which we find ourselves. We have jazzed off into the jungles. We have lost our way. In working out our economic and governmental difficulties we must return to the fundamental principles, to obediences to the laws of nature, the laws of God which govern governments." Chancellor Von Papen said: "The State must remain mindful of its spiritual and religious foundations. All sovereignty of the State and each office of government have their origin in God, even when the incumbent of any office is elected by the people. The governmental authority must follow the path of spiritual."

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*Almost a Miracle.*—At the Eucharistic Congress on the last Sunday in June, 1932, in Dublin, Ireland, a million people were kneeling at the Holy Mass in Phoenix Park with half a million more in the city and suburbs. This is the record of Christian attendance in any one place at one time the world has ever seen, and is the best answer to atheism and communism made yet. Perhaps this example and the 1,500-year-old bell of St. Patrick that was rung in spiritual Ireland will result in a revival of true peace throughout the world.

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*A Theoretical Government and the Result.*—"The state of affairs existing today in the former Russian Empire has been brought about by the adoption of a social system whose leading features are complete sexual promiscuity, the introduction of contraceptive practices, the sanctioning of abortion, and the abolition of the family. In *The Red Gazette* of June 8, 1931, Professor Tolotaraf states the following: 'In the lowest classes of the schools traces of the terrible period covered by the last ten years are observable. Children born during the years of the war, fed by tired mothers, and entering life in the midst of famine and epidemics, carry on them the marks of fatigue and distrust. Their ignorance, their inability to express themselves, show that it is not merely a question of insufficient instruction, but there are signs of decay of individuality and lack of will power.'"—M. T. VIEUILLE, *National Life*.

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*Vatican City, Oct. 22.*—Physicians are in a most favorable position to exercise the true apostolate of the family and society, but require full knowledge of the fundamental points of moral discipline

connected with the medical art, His Holiness Pope Pius XI declares in a letter which he has just addressed to a group of physicians.

The Holy Father's letter is addressed to a number of doctors who, belonging to Catholic Action, held a convention on the occasion of the Feast of St. Luke. The Holy Father expressed his delight in the desire of the doctors to study problems in the light of the Encyclical Letter *Casti Connubii*, assuring them that such study confirms the complete and admirable harmony between Catholic doctrine and real scientific conquests and contributes to the actuation of demographic rules and regulations in force in Italy.—Pucci.

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*The Federation Golfs.*—On the 23rd of June, 1932, the golfers of the Manhattan, Brooklyn and Queens affiliates of the Catholic Physicians' Guild sauntered out to St. Albans Golf Club to wield their various weapons on the greensward of this beautiful Long Island golf course.

To compensate for the divot digging, the "Commitia Minora" thought it might be a good idea, since this was our first Golf Tournament, to appoint St. Albans as our Patron Saint of Golf. However, this will have to be decided by the "Commitia Majora."

The grand prize was donated by Dr. Richard A. Rendich, to be won twice for permanent ownership. Ray Rorke donated the low net for the day; Dr. Thomas M. Brennan the low gross; Dr. Herbert Fett donated the Kickers; Dr. Scannell donated the guest prize; Dr. Peter Dulligan and Dr. M. G. Golden donated the low nets for the individual boroughs.

The first leg on the grand prize and possession for one year was won by Dr. Edward Keyes. The low net for the day was won by Dr. John Scannell. The low gross was won by Dr. James Mitchell. The Kickers' prize was won by Dr. Cornelius Schmid. The guest prize was won by Dr. Feodor Senger. The low net for the Manhattan Guild was won by Dr. Anthony Bassler. The Queens low net was won by Dr. Harry A. Burgess. The Brooklyn low net was won by Dr. Francis X. Brown. The runner-up on the low net prize was won by Dr. Richard A. Rendich. Honorable mention was given to Dr. Samuel Scuderi for his unquestionable honesty when he turned in a card of 212 for eighteen holes.

Following golf the boys thoroughly enjoyed a dinner at which all of the tournament attended. The Annual Golf Tournament was so successful that it was decided to have it as a fixture and the main *social* activity of the year.