

December 1934

## Guild Notes

Catholic Physicians' Guild

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Experience confirms our conviction that the discovery of the rhythm of sterility and fertility in women by Drs. Ogino and Knaus represents one of the most helpful triumphs of science, a triumph of the greatest significance for the human race because of its physiological, social and moral implications.

Summing up, then, we may be allowed to state that *the Latz Foundation, during the first two years of its existence, realized to a considerable extent its aims: 1. Spreading the knowledge of the rhythm theory of sterility and fertility in women. 2. Collecting data in confirmation of the theory, and, 3. Making available to increasing numbers the tremendous advantages of a normal method of birth control.*

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## GUILD NOTES

MANHATTAN GUILD—In the Nurse's Auditorium of St. Vincent's Hospital, New York City, the Catholic Physicians' Guild of Manhattan held its fall meeting on November 21st. Its galaxy of interesting speakers in the past was increased by the presentation of an address by the Reverend Walter G. Summers, S.J., of Fordham University. Father Summers asked, "How Shall Physicians be Compensated?" pointing out the causes and conditions which gave rise to the present deplorable situation in economic medicine and enumerating the undesirable features of socialized and state medicine. The Reverend Edward Roberts Moore, the Guild's Moderator, then addressed the meeting, commenting on Father Summer's theme and explaining the planned activities of the government to carry the people through the depression. Dr. Robert Emmet Walsh, President of the Physicians' Equity Association of America, reviewed the difficulties and obstacles which confront the doctor of today. Dr. Richard Kovacs spoke on the advisability of using our constituted County and State Societies to effect economic reforms. The meeting ended after talks by Drs. Bassler, Power and Welling. Through the courtesy of the Sisters of the hospital, refreshments were served after the meeting.

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BRONX GUILD—On Sunday, November 25th, Dr. Henry J. Barrow, M.D., the newly elected President, presided over the fall meeting of the Guild. Following mass and communion, the Reverend Walter G. Summers, S.J., presented a scholarly paper on socialized medicine. It was declared by the members present as undoubtedly the best presentation of the question that they had heard. A lively discussion was carried on from the floor. Attention was called to the desirability of having such a paper printed in separate pamphlet form for distribution among those who do not see the fallacies and the dangers in the socialized medicine movement. A few weeks after the communion breakfast a committee of the doctors' wives organized a whist party to raise funds for the Guild.

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BROOKLYN GUILD—Several committee meetings were held during the fall. Ways and means of stimulating the interest of Catholic physicians in the Diocese were pondered. In November, the Chapter requested the Reverend William J.

Duane, S.J., to come to St. Peter's Hospital and to celebrate a mass for the repose of the souls of the deceased Catholic physicians of the Diocese. So successful was the plan and so deeply moved were those who attended the services that steps are being taken to make this requiem mass an annual event. At the December meeting, the Reverend Edward F. Garesche, S.J., President of the Catholic Medical Mission Board, delivered a talk entitled "Helping the Medical Missionary." Dr. Eugene Colligan, noted historian and lecturer, who is also President of Hunter College, New York City, delivered an address at this same meeting, entitled "The Catholic Church in the Development of Civilization and Democracy."

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BOSTON GUILD—Progress is reported in the drive for new members, since well over one hundred doctors attended the last meeting of the Guild of St. Luke. Dr. Timothy Leary, M.D., was the Guild's guest speaker and delivered a very interesting discourse. The Guild is making every effort to make its meetings so enticing that a distinct regret will be felt by those who neglect them. Already its efforts have been rewarded by inspiring associates to new efforts in the drive for new members. Efforts are being made to have Dr. James J. Walsh, M.D., prominent New York physician and lecturer, as the guest speaker at the next meeting of the Guild in January.

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LITTLE ROCK GUILD—The Reverend John J. Healy launched the Little Rock Chapter of the Federated Catholic Physicians' Guild on December 14th, by explaining the purposes of the Guild and elections were conducted immediately thereafter with the following results:

|                          |                            |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| President.....           | Dr. R. E. McLochlin        |
| Vice-President.....      | Dr. Joseph Roe             |
| Secretary-Treasurer..... | Dr. W. J. Schwarz          |
| Chaplain.....            | The Reverend John J. Healy |

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BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS, GUILD—The Reverend M. J. Gruenewald, Chancellor of the Diocese, at the request of his Excellency, the Most Reverend Henry Althoff, Bishop of Belleville, held a meeting some time ago to discuss the possibility of organizing the Catholic Physicians in Belleville. At this meeting a committee was appointed to draft a constitution and by-laws. At a recent meeting the Guild was established. The Reverend M. J. Gruenewald—Moderator, Dr. H. J. Frein, Dr. L. A. Ryan, Dr. Gustave Ludwig, Dr. Charles H. Bauman, Dr. Henry Reis, Dr. Donahue and Dr. R. C. Heiligenstein are charter members of the Chapter. The following letter of approval was received from his Excellency, Bishop Althoff:

"The Catholic Physicians' Guild merits commendation for its noble aims, and the opportunity it affords its members to perform many excellent deeds of spiritual value in their exalted profession.

"I hereby appoint the Very Reverend M. J. Gruenewald, our Chancellor, as Moderator of the Guild.

"I bestow upon it my cordial approval and invoke the divine blessing upon all its members and associates.

(signed) HENRY ALTHOFF,  
Bishop of Belleville."

Consequent upon this a very successful meeting of the Guild was held at St. Elizabeth's Hospital of Belleville on November 22nd during which a group of new members were welcomed into the Guild. Dr. Joseph G. Beykirch, outstanding physician and surgeon, read a paper on "Birth Control and the Physician." Discussion took place after the reading of this most interesting paper and arrangements were made for subscriptions to THE LINACRE for the new members. All are hopeful that the success already achieved will inspire further efforts to make the Guild in Belleville a glorious success and a blessing to the Catholic physicians in particular and the Church in general.

WICHITA GUILD—The Catholic Physicians' Guild of Wichita held its initial meeting on September 12, 1934, at the home of Dr. Martin Hagan. After a dinner, at which Dr. Hagan was host, the meeting was called to order and election of officers followed with the following results:

|                          |                               |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| President.....           | Dr. Martin Hagan              |
| Vice-President.....      | Dr. Frank Menehan             |
| Secretary-Treasurer..... | Dr. L. S. Roberts             |
| Moderator.....           | The Reverend William Schaefer |

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

|                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Dr. G. E. Corrigan     | Dr. H. W. Gaumr        |
| Dr. Frederick D. Smith | Dr. F. L. Meeninghoff  |
| Dr. H. C. Curtis       | Dr. Frances H. Schiltz |
| Dr. W. T. Elnen        | Dr. Strunk             |

The Guild is outlining a program of public health in the parochial schools of Wichita. Each member is to give his services to examine the school children and recommend them to their family physician if they are in need of treatment. The Guild will also conduct talks on public health and related subjects through the Speakers' Bureau of the County Medical Society to be given to students, teachers, and parent-teachers' organizations.

BOOK REVIEWS

NATURE'S WAY, THE FERTILE AND STERILE PERIODS OF MARRIAGE. By Victor C. Pedersen, A.M., M.D., F.A.C.S. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1934.

This little book is a clear, simple, easily understandable explanation of what is now known to be a fact—fertile and sterile periods in the monthly cycle of women. Despite its untechnical language the book is a scientific work carefully documented. *Nature's Way* will prove invaluable to doctors, clergymen, social workers and those married people who have a right to this information. It shows clearly that through the way of partial restraint there is a scientific method of spacing births for sufficient reasons even more widely than the spacing which takes place by nature itself. Even healthy couples without the use of contraceptives beget only one to four, and most rarely six to eight, children.

It is pleasant to see that the medical profession is at last becoming more articulate in its denunciation of positive contraception. As Dr. Pedersen says: "Notwithstanding what advocates of the use of contraceptives and advertisers say, our normal bodies are not intended to be invaded by mechanical devices or disturbed