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Letters to the Editor

Catholic Physicians' Guild

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Letters To The Editor

LINACRE HAS NO IMPACT

To the editor:

I am a member of the Catholic Physicians Guild of Manitoba. Recently, I read in the National Catholic Register of August 15, 1971, from Denver, Colorado, an article by Paul M. Hallett which you will find enclosed.

"It is always dismaying to read of some further concession to license by the American Medical Association. It was ominous to learn that its house of delegates is considering a new policy which would permit physicians to give birth control pills and contraceptive devices to teen-agers without parental consent.

But it is crushing to note how little influence the Catholic physician has on medical policy. Sure, the AMA has 215,000 members, and the National Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds, a pitiful 6,000. But there must be many more Catholic doctors who are not members of a guild.

In its 1970 convention, the National Federation of Catholic Physicians did deliver a firm resolution against abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia and against the use of public funds to promote population control. But the Catholic physician will have to do more than pass resolutions. He will have to develop the spirit of the martyr."

I think that the Linacre Quarterly is a great little journal. I note that its front cover reads "Journal of Philosophy and Ethics of Medical Practice." Years ago the title of the journal read "Catholic Journal of Philosophy and Ethics of Medical Practice," but as we have progressed we have dropped the word Catholic.

The point I want to make is that this Journal is a good Journal. We would have a greater distribution if we could somehow get the Journal into the A.M.A. and C.M.A. journal so that it would have a larger doctor reading body. How this could be done, I do not know; I leave this to the central office with its strong executive.

If this could be implemented, then the good articles which this Journal gives us every 3 months would awaken a different current of thought in the medical profession.

Hoping you understand my viewpoint, because with the limited circulation which the Linacre presently has, it has no impact on medical thinking.

Wilfred N. Albi, M.D.
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LINACRE HAS IMPACT

To the Editor:

(Vol.) 38:4 (of Linacre Quarterly) changed my mind. I was going to drop my subscription. Then it came and I realized I needed L.Q.

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