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Foreign Medical Guilds

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stages." In this discussion, we are confronted with what is actually found to be or gravely suspected to be an ectopic pregnancy.

8. To write that "priests should insist, before giving advice in practical cases, that physicians be sure that there really is a pathological condition of the tube" is irrelevant, for we are dealing with cases when there certainly is a pathological condition of the tube on the evidence of gynaecologists.

9. "It would seem," wrote Monsignor O'Brien, "that it is the development of the foetus which makes the condition of the tube dangerous to the mother—if, indeed, it can be admitted that the tube becomes dangerous in all cases—but it is not dangerous from the beginning. The danger, it seems, is avoided in this case by preventing the development of the

foetus. Such a thing could never be justified." We agree. But no Catholic moralist holds that the danger to the mother is to be avoided by preventing the development of the foetus. What is held is that the danger to the mother can and may be prevented by preventing the continued serious pathological condition of the tube. That this results in preventing the development of the foetus is obvious, but this result is indirect. Monsignor O'Brien is less than just when he attributes so extraordinary a view to his opponents.

In conclusion, the only point of difference between the two contrary views is that Monsignor O'Brien's view is that serious danger is not always present in an ectopic pregnancy, whereas the view of those whom he opposes is that there is such a danger.

Foreign Medical Guilds

The medical guilds in Spain have never disappeared; they have been active at least since the sixteenth century. The medieval French Medical Guild of St. Luke, St. Cosmas and St. Damian, reconstituted in 1884, had in 1914, 11,000 members with branches in all the principal cities of France.

For many years the formation of a Catholic Medical Guild occupied the thoughts of Catholic doctors in England. Because it

was almost impossible to determine who were the Catholic physicians, and for other more cogent reasons, it was finally decided to form a society capable of renewing and maintaining the ancient Christian traditions of the profession, to be called the Guild of St. Luke, St. Cosmas, and St. Damian. On July 27, 1910, with the approval of ecclesiastical authorities, the Guild was provisionally constituted.—*Medical Missionary.*