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Guild Notes

Catholic Physicians' Guild

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GUILD NOTES

NEW YORK CITY GUILDS—The Triborough Dinner of Manhattan, Bronx, and Brooklyn, was held at the Biltmore Hotel on February 16th. The Committee, under the leadership of Dr. Thomas E. Waldie, President of the Manhattan Guild, is to be congratulated upon its management. The dinner was well attended, and the speakers were interesting. The principal address was made by Professor Walter B. Kennedy of the Fordham University Law School, who criticized the excessive number of lawyers and complimented the physicians on their success in limiting students of medicine. Medical science helps greatly in the trial courts, through the medium of the lie detector, fingerprints, and the lunacy hearings. He called attention to the fact that "irresistible impulse" as a defense plea is denied in New York, but admitted in other states.

MANHATTAN GUILD—The Guild will join with the Medical Staff of St. Vincent's Hospital in the Annual Lenten Conference, which will be given by the Rev. Vincent Donovan, O.P., on Monday evening, April 11th, in the Hospital Chapel. Mass and Holy Communion on Tuesday morning, at 8:30 o'clock. The Superintendent, Sister Mary Stephen, invites the Guild members to breakfast in the Nurses' Residence after Mass.

BRONX GUILD—At the December meeting, the following officers were elected: President, Dr. George A. Howley; Vice-President, Dr. John Conboy; Secretary, Dr. Thomas I. Brennan; Treasurer, Dr. Hamilton J. Hammill. Mr. John Court, who has been active in the Catholic Worker Movement, gave an interesting talk on the labor situation. The Honorable Samuel J. Foley, District Attorney of Bronx County, is scheduled to address the Guild at the April meeting.

BROOKLYN GUILD—Dr. Nicholas H. Ryan advises that on Monday evening, February 7th, Mr. F. J. Sheed, founder of the Catholic publishing house of Sheed & Ward, spoke on the topic "The Catholic Church in Modern Europe." The speaker possesses a great wealth of knowledge, as well as a charming personality, and is most eloquent. He stated that Europe at the present moment is ready for explosion. There is scarcely a country in Europe in which the possibilities of persecution are not present. The motives for state hostility vary from hatred of God, as in Russia, and hatred of the Church herself, as in Albania, to a general tendency on the part of all states to extend the boundaries of their own control over their citizens and to look with suspicion upon any other institution with a claim upon the citizens' loyalty. The first two elements may gradually disappear, but the third is likely to grow. Conflict between the Church and State is almost certain in every country in Europe except Ireland.

Since the beginning of the twentieth century, there has been a change in the attitude of non-Catholics towards Catholic literature. Such writers as Christopher Dawson, Chesterton and Belloc could not be ignored or disregarded. Francois Mauriac has done the same for the Church in France.

How well is the Church equipped to meet the religious chaos in Europe? The chief weakness is Nationalism, as millions of Catholics are torn both ways. This is shown in Germany and Italy. The main strength is demonstrated in the great number of gifted writers and speakers. The prestige of the Catholic intellect has never stood higher, and there is in the Laity, a steadily growing knowledge of doctrine and a rapidly growing intensity of Sacramental life.

BOSTON GUILD—The Secretary, Dr. D. L. Lynch, writes that the fall

meeting was held on November 15th, at which time a very interesting and instructive lecture on "The Value of Fluoroscopic and X-Ray Studies in the Diagnosis of Organic Heart Disease" was given by Dr. George Levene, Roentgenologist of the Massachusetts Memorial Hospitals. He showed a number of slides, including graphic representations of the structure and mechanism of the normal heart, and of X-ray pictures of the diseased heart. He concluded his lecture with a demonstration of a unique series of so-called "mechanical hearts," ingenious structures which reproduced the action of the numerous cardiopathies *in vivo*, as seen under the fluoroscope. The discussion was opened by Dr. William Duncan Reid, Cardiologist of the Massachusetts Memorial Hospitals, who had collaborated with Dr. Levene in his studies of heart disease. Dr. James P. O'Hare commented favorably upon the work of Dr. Levene, but sounded a word of caution against depending too greatly upon X-ray or any other so-called instrument of precision in arriving at a diagnosis. The Committee appointed by the Guild reported that "Resolutions on Compulsory Health Insurance" had been prepared and forwarded to each of the United States Senators and to the Representatives from this district.

The meeting held March 7th, was attended by 186 members of the Guild and guests. Dr. Morris Fishbein, Editor of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, spoke in his customary dynamic and interesting fashion. He told of the watchfulness, diligence and activity of the trustees and executives of the Association to protect the profession against regimentation by Federal dictate and from marketing by various groups of the mutually anointed, socially economic-minded savers of mankind, as well as from self-appointed minority committees of the profession who, misguided perhaps, yet propose in effect the ultimate destruction of the ideals of medical education and practice which we cherish.

BELLEVILLE GUILD—The School Health Program is progressing in the parochial schools, the Guild members volunteering their services in medicine and dentistry. The Guild is taking effective methods to stop the display and sale of contraceptive devices by sending a protest to the 171 retail druggists of the diocese, requesting an expression of their attitude on this unethical and immoral practice. At a later meeting, Dr. J. Donahue, the sponsor of this fine piece of Catholic Action, will give a detailed report. The regular meeting, held February 22d, was opened with a luncheon at the Knights of Columbus Building in East St. Louis. After the regular order of business, Very Rev. Msgr. M. J. Gruenewald, Moderator, introduced Rev. A. R. Zuroweste, Editor of *The Messenger*, who spoke on "The Catholic Press and the Professional Man." He showed that the *Messenger* has done everything to protect the high principles of the medical profession. The newly elected officers are Dr. Jerry J. Kane, President; Dr. E. F. Moore, Vice-President; Dr. John Brennan, Secretary; and Dr. J. Donahue, Treasurer.

PHILADELPHIA GUILD—The Secretary, Dr. Edward F. McLaughlin, reports that on December 5th, a regular meeting was held at the Penn Athletic Club. A letter from His Eminence, Cardinal Dougherty, was read expressing regret at his inability to attend. It contained words of encouragement and stimulation for the advancement of the Guild.

The President, Dr. Joseph A. Daly, welcomed the members, and outlined the moral duties of Catholic physicians, and stated the aims of the Guild. Father Farley, Chaplain at Eastern Penitentiary, spoke of his experiences, telling of some of the prison characters—"Chubby," "Dr. Crap," "the Broadcaster," and "the Man with the Tusks."

Following the meeting a repast was served.

The Annual Retreat was held in the Cathedral Chapel, from March 31st to April 3rd. This concluded with Holy Communion and breakfast. Members of Guilds from other cities who were in Philadelphia were invited to join.

CLEVELAND GUILD—Dr. Leo Latz of the Latz Foundation was the principal speaker at the recent dinner meeting, which was well attended, not only by the members of the Guild, but by the priests of the diocese. Dr. Latz presented the newest statistics on the subject of Rhythm, supplying the Guild with enough discussion subjects for some time. Dr. T. Wingate Todd of the Brush Foundation brought out many new approaches to the Rhythm theory which corroborated Dr. Latz's work, but from entirely different angles.

The Secretary, Dr. Melvin F. Yeip, announces that the Spring dinner meeting will be held on April 6th, at which time Dr. Mullins, Professor of Morals at the Lady of the Lake Seminary, will address the members. Plans are now being made for the usual Annual Retreat to be held in August.

WILMINGTON GUILD—This Guild was organized in December, with a group of seventeen physicians. The officers elected were Honorary President, The Most Rev. Edward J. Fitzmaurice, Bishop of Wilmington; Chaplain, Rev. Francis J. Desmond; President, Dr. J. W. Butler; Vice-President, Dr. John F. Hynes; Secretary, Dr. Joseph J. Davalos; Treasurer, Dr. Willard F. Preston. The first regular meeting was held February 17th in the Auditorium of St. Francis Hospital. After the business meeting, Rev. David V. McCauley, S.J., Dean of the Georgetown University School of Medicine, gave a most interesting talk on "The Catholic Doctor and Modern Society." The meeting was well attended, twenty-four physicians and many of the clergy being present. After adjournment, there was a social session at which refreshments were served.

SHANGHAI GUILD—The President of the Federation reports that medical and surgical supplies have been forwarded by the Catholic Medical Mission Board to the value of the full amount contributed by the Guilds and by individual members. A final statement of receipts and disbursements will be mailed to all contributors.

ITS QUICK ACTION PREVENTS DEFORMITIES

No antirachitic substance will completely straighten bones that have become grossly misshapen as the result of rickets. But oleum percomorphum can be depended upon to prevent rachitic deformities if given early and in adequate dosage. This is not true of all antirachitic agents, many of which

are so limited by tolerance or bulk that they cannot be given in quantities sufficient to arrest the rachitic process promptly, with the result that the bones are not sufficiently calcified to bear weight or muscle-pull and hence become deformed.