

October 1941

Along Highway and Byway

Catholic Physicians' Guild

Follow this and additional works at: <http://epublications.marquette.edu/lnq>

Recommended Citation

Catholic Physicians' Guild (1941) "Along Highway and Byway," *The Linacre Quarterly*: Vol. 9 : No. 4 , Article 1.
Available at: <http://epublications.marquette.edu/lnq/vol9/iss4/1>

THE LINACRE QUARTERLY

Editor-in-Chief, JAMES J. WALSH, M.D., Ph.D., 344 West 72nd Street, New York, N. Y.

Editor, ALEXANDRA P. DILLON, 155 East 77th Street, New York, N. Y.

Address all communications, both editorial and business, to MRS. JOSEPH A. DILLON, 155 East 77th Street, New York City. Make checks payable to THE LINACRE QUARTERLY. Information pertaining to the formation of new Guilds and application blanks—MISS MADELINE MCGREGOR, *Exec. Sec.*, 477 Madison Avenue, New York City.

VOL. IX

OCTOBER, 1941

NO. 4

ALONG HIGHWAY AND BYWAY

We must sorrowfully announce the untimely death at the age of 56, of the President of the Manhattan Guild, Doctor Thomas E. Waldie, a physician who gave his time and his medical knowledge unstintingly to many Catholic charities and who was never too tired or too busy to attend the meetings of the Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds, where his valuable suggestions and advice were always welcomed. To his widow and to his seven sons—five of whom are in religion—we offer our sincere and heartfelt sympathy.

A very friendly letter has been received by us from Dr. Carlos Alberto Castaño, President of the Catholic Physicians' Guild of Buenos Aires, Argentina. He thinks that while so much is being said about establishing friendly relations between North and South America, it would be well for a better understanding between the Catholic Physicians'

Guilds of the two continents. He sent the March and April issues of their official publication *Iatria*, a 36-page monthly magazine of the same format as LINACRE. In these issues are excellent articles on Eugenics, Birth Control, Obstetrics, and the Moral and Legal Responsibilities of the Physician. In return, the 1941 issues of LINACRE have been sent to Doctor Castaño. We welcome this contact with these active Catholic physicians of the Southern Continent and hope that the interchange of ideas as expressed in the official organs may prove helpful to all.

With the reopening of the public schools this September, the Federal Government is beginning to realize the widespread effects of the Birth Control movement — nowadays euphoni-ously called "Planned Parenthood". The United States Office of Education at Washington has announced that there would be about 160,000 fewer students en-

rolled this year than last in the elementary schools. "These decreases", the office said, "are due to the low birth rate from 1930 to 1938." In the Kindergarten population alone, a decline of 15,000 enrollments has taken place.

We are glad to note that Lieutenant-Governor Charles Poletti of New York banned the Birth Control Exhibit from the New York State Fair at Syracuse, and refused to change his decision despite great pressure that was brought to bear upon him. Various Catholic organizations of the State congratulated him upon his stand.

The national weekly *America* has taken up the matter of the Government's handling of the question of venereal disease. Every recruit is given a booklet published by the War Department entitled "Sex Hygiene and Venereal Disease." They are told to avoid "liquors", and environments which they know to be corrupt, lead a normal, active life, eat and sleep the right way, work hard, play hard, and have good friends. Then: "The safest way to guard your health is to keep yourself under control. To have control you must develop a strong will power. Every person in this world finds that life is a big struggle. A struggle against the difficult things in the world. And a mighty struggle against the desires inside himself. It takes strong control to get along in this

life." So far so good! But now follows that to which every Catholic must object:

"If you do not have self-control, then do not fail to take safety measures (p. 16). * * * Paragraph 3c, AR40-235, requires that every soldier who exposes himself to infection shall use individual materials at the time to prevent venereal disease. For this purpose, post exchanges sell tested and approved prophylactic kits. The Army also provides a special treatment (prophylaxis) to be used for the prevention of venereal disease (p. 12)."

This paragraph will certainly void the good effects of the first. For if no punishment will be meted out and as long as the soldier is told that he can escape disease, the weaker ones will certainly be sorely tempted, especially as many such opportunities are offered in the vicinity of the various camps. Here the individual Catholic physician as well as the Catholic Physicians' Guilds, can find a great opportunity for service by protesting (1) to their Representatives and Senators at Washington; (2) to the Hon. Henry L. Stimson, Secretary of War.

The protest should state the objection to the paragraph in "The Basic Field Manual", No. 80, d. (1) which treats of "Prophylactic Measures: Mechanical." It's your right as an American citizen, and your duty as a Christian, to protest. Let's help to keep the Army clean!