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The Thomas Linacre Award

Catholic Physicians' Guilds

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Ation, the wife and children know he wants to be with them but that he must sacrifice them. They, in turn, sacrifice him to the needs of others. Thus it is that when they are together, it means more to them and they enjoy one another more, because it is more deeply appreciated.

At the same time, the doctor should make a real effort to find ways of making up to his family for his unavoidable absence from them. He should at times sacrifice himself for them as he so readily does for his patients. Or he may have to refuse the demands of an unreasonable patient for the sake of his family. It may even eventually come to the point where he will be obliged to limit his practice to allow more time with his family. One very practical way for the doctor’s family to be together more often is for the doctor and his wife to entertain as a family. Include the children in the visits with friends and encourage them to bring their children when they return the visit. There are so many couples who know each other so very well, but their children are not acquainted.

And so it is a matter of putting first things first - - God, Family, Medicine. In this age of increasing emphasis on the specialist, the doctor should apply himself to the greatest specialty of them all — that of being a good father. The medical profession has grown away from the family doctor. What is needed now is to bring the doctor back to the family — his own. Yes, doctor, there must be a father in the house!

Father Roche, ordained in 1943, is a member of the Congregation of the Mission, the Vincentian Fathers. For three years he served as Catholic Chaplain at St. Louis City Hospital and has been with De Paul Hospital since July of 1956. Acquaintance with many internes and residents as well as staff doctors prompted this sympathetic approach to a problem which certainly needs thoughtful consideration.

TRAVEL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE...

The well-known O'Scannlain & English Travel Service, 62 W. 46th St., New York 36, N. Y. has been appointed the official Travel Agency for the Jubilee Celebration of the Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guild in New York, June 5.

The Agency belongs to ASTA (American Society of Travel Agencies) and WATA (World Association of Travel Agencies), and consequently has excellent facilities for handling the Jubilee Celebration. It will arrange transportation for groups and individuals, to and from the Convention of the A.M.A. scheduled in New York City June 3-7, hotel accommodations, tours to Bermuda and the New England States, and other interesting places, and excursions in New York City and vicinity.

Mr. Jack Lampe will be in charge of the Agency's arrangements for the Jubilee Celebration. He will cooperate closely with the Jubilee Committee in order to give the Guild members maximum service. We urge you to inform Mr. Lampe as early as possible of your travel plans. The Agency and Jubilee Committee will mail further information regarding plans for the Jubilee Celebration.

The Thomas Linacre Award

The Executive Board of The Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds at the winter meeting, 1956, voted to sponsor The Thomas Linacre Award. This will be made annually to the Catholic physician contributing an article to LINACRE QUARTERLY judged by the Editorial Board to be most valuable in content to promote the interests of the journal in its efforts to express opinions in the light of Catholic teaching as applied to medical practice.

The first Award will be made at the Silver Jubilee Celebration of the Federation in New York City on June 5. The choice will be made from among the articles contributed by Catholic physicians during the past five years. Subsequent awards will be made each June at the annual meeting of the Federation. The recipient will be presented a medal suitably engraved and the physician will be the guest of the Federation on that occasion.

This is meant to encourage Catholic physicians to write for our journal. Any who feel they have a message to contribute are urged to apply pen or pencil to their thoughts and send the results to Reverend John J. Flanagan, S.J., Editor, THE LINACRE QUARTERLY, 1438 So. Grand Blvd., St. Louis 4, Missouri.