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Catholic Physicians' Guilds

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EXECUTIVE BOARD

Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds

JUNE MEETING

The June meeting of the Executive Board of The Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds was held in Chicago, Illinois, June 13, 1956, at Hotel Sherman. The following were present:

M. P. Yezp, M.D., President.
E. J. Murphy, M.D., Third Vice-President, also Bronx Guild.
J. J. Graf, M.D., Secretary, also Wilmington Guild.
L. D. Cuddy, M.D., Treasurer, also St. Louis Guild.
Rt. Rev. Msgr. D. A. McGowan, Catholic Physicians' Guilds were present:

E. J. Murphy, M.D., Third Vice-President.
M. F. Yeip, M.D., President.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

After roll call, the President requested vote on the minutes of the Executive Board meeting, December 3-4, 1955, in Boston, Mass., as read by the Executive Secretary. Approved as mailed.

President's Report

The President advised that all matters of business reaching his attention are likewise reported to the Moderator's office and the central office of the Federation in St. Louis. Much effort was given to the preparation of the display for the Federation Booth at the A.M.A. Convention in Chicago, June 11-15.

The request for affiliation with the Federation came to the President from a Guild in Puerto Rico. To effect such membership, it is necessary to amend the Constitution of the Federation to include "and Possessions" (Article V, Section 1). Due notice will be sent to all Guilds.

The Linacre Quarterly

The Editor reported the May 1956 circulation of THE LINACRE QUARTERLY to be 7,665. 3,795 copies were mailed to Guild members and the balance to individual subscribers—doctors not members of Guilds, priests, sisters, hospitals, medical students and libraries.

The continued need for articles was emphasized. The Guilds were urged to send in papers given at their meetings for review by the Editorial Board as possible material for the journal.

It was suggested that biographical sketches of the Catholic men of science whose pictures were used for the Federation display might be of interest. The possibility of a Linacre Award for an outstanding article was proposed.

For further distribution of the journal, Guilds were urged to send THE LINACRE QUARTERLY to doctors in service both at home and abroad. The President pointed out the need of these men for the material that appears in the magazine.

Federation Membership

Membership in the Federation was reported as totaling 54 Guilds. Since the December 1955 meeting of the Board, two Guilds were affiliated—Rochester, New York and Lafayette, Louisiana.

Funds pending are:

New Britain, Conn.
Evanston, Ill.

In compliance with a request at the December Board meeting to be informed of the medical ethics courses conducted at Catholic medical schools, reports were secured and a resume presented. The courses consist of lectures and discussion periods. Basic moral principles are included in all courses; medico-moral aspects of many subjects provide wide field for discussion; spiritual care of patients is included at each school. Three schools provide medical ethics courses in two years of study; one conducts a four year course. This topic is to receive further consideration.

Medical Ethics Courses

Pontiac, Mich.
Lima, Ohio
Evansville, Ind.
Bridgeport, Conn.

The White Mass

Observance of the Feast Day of St. Luke, October 18, was discussed. The Guild officers were advised that a national program of publicity will be developed for the occasion and that information would also be prepared for them to give their local outlets to which could be added time and place for their Mass. The White Mass symbolizes those who wear white while serving the sick and many Guilds offer their Mass before or after October 18, the nearest day when white vestments are worn. Guilds reported widespread acceptance of the Mass observance of the patron's feast day.
International Meeting of Catholic Doctors
The International Congress of Catholic Doctors is to be held in The Hague, Netherlands, September 9-16. The Federation Moderator Monsignor McGowan will represent the Guilds at the meeting.

Executive Board Winter Meeting
Representatives of the Cleveland Guild extended an invitation to the Board to hold its winter meeting in that city. Dates set for the sessions are December 8 and 9.

Federation Booth at A.M.A. Convention
The display of the Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds in Booth C-5, as part of the exhibit of the A.M.A. convention was regarded as an important contribution to the activities of this organization. Visitors came in great numbers and officers and members were on hand to describe the work of the Guilds. Inquiry cards signed by visitors were checked requesting information concerning the Catholic viewpoint on many moral issues in medical practice.

The Fall River Guild used the display at a meeting prior to the A.M.A. convention.

A sample of a smaller display for regional or State meetings of doctors was on hand. When details of cost and availability are fully determined, the Guilds will be advised. It felt that the use of these displays in hospital medical staff rooms and other areas frequented by doctors would stimulate interest in Guild membership and help to increase subscriptions to The Linacre Quarterly.

Silver Jubilee—Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds
The year 1957 marks the 25th anniversary of the Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds.

A history of activities will be prepared and published in The Linacre Quarterly, and other media of publicity will be developed.

During the A.M.A. meeting June 3-7, 1957, special observance of the jubilee will take place. It was suggested that a dinner meeting, permitting more time than a luncheon session, would be in keeping with the occasion. The details of the Silver Jubilee meeting will be formulated at the December meeting of the Executive Board.

Guild Reports
Representatives reported Guild activities. These were included in the Bulletin " Guilds in Focus" prepared and mailed to Guild presidents and moderators.

Other Business
A message expressing wishes for recovery was sent to Dr. J. J. Toland, Jr., immediate past president of the Federation, who had suffered a heart attack just prior to the June meeting.

The Moderator advised that a communication had been received from the Rural Life Conference advising of an Award to be given for the best contribution to rural life. The Federation was invited to submit names of those considered eligible.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 followed by luncheon for Catholic physicians and friends. Dr. Anthony J. J. Rourke, hospital consultant, New Rochelle, New York, addressed the group on accreditation and its meaning for the medical staff.