

August 1958

## Minutes of Executive Board Meeting Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds: Sir Francis Drake Hotel, San Francisco, California, June 25, 1958

Catholic Physicians' Guilds

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# MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC PHYSICIANS' GUILDS

SIR FRANCIS DRAKE HOTEL  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

JUNE 25, 1958

The meeting was called to order by the President, Dr. William J. Egan at 9:45 a. m. Rt. Rev. Msgr. William F. Reilly, Moderator of the Oakland Guild, opened the meeting with prayer.

## ROLL CALL

### Officers present:

William J. Egan, M.D. — President  
Eusebius J. Murphy, M.D. — First Vice-President  
Joseph R. Holoubek, M.D. — Second Vice-President  
Clement P. Cunningham, M.D. — Third Vice-President

### Representatives of Affiliated Guilds present:

Clyde V. Von der Ahe, M.D. — Los Angeles, Calif.  
W. Moloney, Sr., M.D. — Los Angeles, Calif.  
N. C. Barwasser, M.D. — Rock Island, Ill.  
G. Haffner, M.D. — Fort Wayne, Ind.  
B. N. Lies, M.D. — Wichita, Kansas  
A. F. Rossitto, M.D. — Wichita, Kansas  
Very Rev. Bernard E. Vogler — Lafayette, La.  
Harold Chastant, M.D. — Lafayette, La.  
Anthony Failla, M.D. — New Orleans, La.  
Paul Lastropes, M.D. — New Orleans, La.  
Alice Holoubek, M.D. — Shreveport, La.  
William J. Egan, M.D. — Boston, Mass.  
Aubrey J. Pothier, M.D. — New Bedford, Mass.  
Geoffrey Brinkman, M.D. — Detroit, Mich.  
John P. Kelly, M.D. — Minneapolis, Minn.  
John T. Lawton, M.D. — St. Louis, Mo.  
Eusebius J. Murphy, M.D. — Bronx, N. Y.  
George F. Price, M.D. — Brooklyn, N. Y.  
Gerard P. J. Griffin, M.D. — Rockville Centre, N. Y.  
Robert M. Eiben, M.D. — Cleveland, Ohio  
Jerome Hochwalt, M.D. — Dayton, Ohio  
C. R. Roscoe, M.D. — Philadelphia, Pa. (Rene Goupil)  
Philip V. Daugherty, M.D. — Nashville, Tenn.  
John Comfort, M.D. — Tacoma, Wash.  
Oliver F. Bush, M.D. — Dallas, Texas  
William J. Fitzgerald, M.D. — Albany, N.Y.  
Rt. Rev. Msgr. Thomas A. Markham — Sacramento, Calif.  
Frank Darrow, M.D. — Oklahoma City, Okla.

### Others:

Rt. Rev. Msgr. William F. Reilly, M.D. — Oakland, Calif.  
Rosalie Reardon, M.D. — San Francisco, Calif.  
Allen Sterling, M.D. — San Francisco, Calif.  
Lawrence Steffen, M.D. — Kansas City, Mo.  
Joseph J. Reidy, M.D. — Chevy Chase, Md.

## Report of the President

Dr. William Egan welcomed all those attending the meeting, in behalf of the Federation, and thanked them for the spiritual and financial sacrifices they had made to participate in the annual meeting of the Executive Board. All were encouraged to express their views on the topics of the agenda. Dr. Egan advised that his report would coincide with those given for the various committee activities.

## THE LINACRE QUARTERLY

In the absence of the Editor, Dr. Egan reported on subscriptions to the Federation's official journal and indicated the following statistics:

June, 1957

—subscriptions totaled 8,540

November, 1957

—subscriptions totaled 8,970

May, 1958

—subscriptions totaled 9,218

The importance of THE LINACRE QUARTERLY was stressed as a publication of reference on medico-moral problems, often quoted by other journals. The president urged the Guilds to encourage members to write articles. Each Guild was asked to appoint an historian whose writing would be a stimulus for other members to submit material for publication in *LQ*. The suggestion became a motion and unanimously passed.

## Membership Report

As of the meeting date, there are 75 Catholic Physicians' Guilds affiliated with the national organization. The total number of Guilds in 1950 was 12 and they were located in six dioceses. In June, 1957, there were 61 Guilds, indicating an increase of 14 during the past year. A report from the office of Monsignor McGowan, the Federation Moderator, indicates six new Guilds pending. Word from the St. Louis office of the Federation advises of Guilds pending in Springfield, Mass.; Chicago, Ill.; Duluth, Minn., and Kansas City, Mo.

It was further noted that there are thirteen States that are not represented in the Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds, namely: Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, Maryland, Mississippi, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Utah and West Virginia. A general discussion ensued regarding ways and means of contacting these areas to encourage the formation and development of groups. Three target areas for the present are Maryland, with emphasis on the first diocese in the United States —

more; New Jersey, site of the new Hall Medical School, and Illinois.

Emphasis was laid on the importance of forming the Guilds of the purposes of the Federation, at the same time maintaining individual autonomy in activities and programs. The benefits derived from membership in the Federation were indicated to be: (1) the opportunity of receiving the official journal; (2) interchanging ideas for activities at the annual and winter meetings of the Executive Board of the Federation; (3) uniting on national projects such as the exhibiting at the A.M.A. convention, a Catholic Action endeavor of great importance, and the "White Mass" on October 18, to honor St. Luke, Patron of Physicians; (4) affords opportunity for a Catholic voice in medicine, on the national level; (5) provides an ideal plane of discussion on which hospital administration and staffs can meet.

## Federation Exhibit

Dr. Gerard P. J. Griffin, chairman of the Exhibit Committee, reported excellent response to the Booth at the A.M.A. convention then in progress. Interest on the part of non-Catholic physicians was as great as Catholic members and other Catholic doctors. He stated that the purpose of the project was to supply information through reprints of articles from THE LINACRE QUARTERLY and other publications on medico-moral problems to increase readership of the official journal of the Federation; to be a good publicity medium to further the Guild movement and membership in the Federation. Dr. Griffin advised that many of the Catholic physicians who visited the booth had not known of Guilds and left enthusiastic about formation of groups in their respective areas. Others were members of local Guilds but unaware of the national organization.

The Exhibit Committee thanked Miss Jean Read, assistant secretary of the Federation, for her efforts in handling the advance details for the setting up of the Exhibit. Gratitude of the Federation is extended to the following whose time and talent were devotedly given to staffing the booth during the days of the A.M.A. convention: Rosalie Reardon, M.D., Clement Cunningham, M.D., George Price, M.D., Eusebius J. Murphy, M.D., William J. Egan, M.D., Paul Wienholz, M.D., Joseph Holoubek, M.D., R. J. O'Laughlin, M.D., S. J. Carnazzo, M.D., Norbert Frey, M.D., Dan Tobin, M.D.,

Frank Darrow, M.D., and Drs. Frey and Wozniak. Special thanks to the wife who helped — Mrs. Egan, Mrs. Murphy, Mrs. Price and Mrs. Cunningham.

The Exhibit this year also included a basic library of textbooks on medico-moral problems. The one-volume *Medical Moral Problems* by Father Gerald Kelly, S.J., came off the press in time for display at the convention. A limited number of prominent publishing houses graciously sent us some of their publications for display. It is the wish of the Federation to thank the following for their cooperation: P. J. Kennedy & Sons, New York; Newman Press, Westminster, Md.; McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc., New York; F. A. Davis Co., Philadelphia, Pa.; Loyola University Press, Chicago, Ill.; Weston College Press, Weston, Mass.; International Catholic Truth Society, Brooklyn, N. Y. Gratitude is extended to Rev. Gerald FitzGibbon, S.J., of Creighton University, Omaha, Neb., for his contribution of many booklets and leaflets concerning spiritual care of patients. The Committee felt that the Federation should again thank Mr. Thomas Mahan, whose generosity provided the display which was first used at the 1956 convention of the A.M.A. in Chicago.

The Chairman also announced to the Board members that the display is available to any local Guild wishing to use it at any appropriate meeting. Shipping and other expenses would, however, be the responsibility of the sponsoring Guild.

## Catholic Physician of the Year

In lieu of a definite plan for selecting the Catholic Physician of the Year, the Executive Committee made the choice for 1958. Announcement will be made at the winter Board meeting. Appropriate acknowledgment will be made and a scroll presented at that time.

For future selection of the recipient of this honor bestowed annually, it was suggested that a committee of four or five physicians be named to choose from a list of candidates whose names would be submitted by the respective Guilds. The selection would not be limited to Guild membership, however. It was further recommended that endorsement of the Bishop of the local diocese be obtained before submitting names to the committee.

It was moved that the Guilds be informed of these suggestions and that action be deferred until the winter meeting.

## Thomas Linacre Award

The annual Thomas Linacre Award is bestowed on the Catholic physician contributing an article to THE 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 Linacre Committee will consider the contributions for 1958 and make the Award at the winter meeting of the Executive Board.

## Memorial Mass

The first Memorial Mass for deceased members of Catholic Physicians' Guilds and the medical profession was celebrated on Wednesday morning, June 25, 8:00 a.m. at Notre Dame des Victoires Church, San Francisco. Rev. Flavian Ward, O.F.M., chaplain of St. Joseph's Hospital in San Francisco, was the celebrant.

Dr. Gerard P. J. Griffin of the Rockville Centre Guild and Dr. Eusebius Murphy of the Bronx Guild served the Mass. Dr. Joseph Holoubek, Shreveport Guild; Dr. George Price, Brooklyn Guild; Dr. Frank Darrow, Oklahoma City Guild, and Dr. Clement Cunningham, Rockford, Ill., Guild ushered. Physicians and their families attending the A.M.A. convention were in attendance. Nurses in uniform from St. Mary's Hospital and Mary's Help Hospital and Sisters from the latter hospital also participated.

Plans for the future offering of the Mass will include invitation to all officers and delegates of the A.M.A. requesting their presence and including all deceased members of the Association in the Mass intention. The Bishop of the diocese where the Mass will be offered will be invited to participate.

## Winter Meeting

It was voted to hold the winter meeting of the Executive Board in Minneapolis, Minn., December 6-7. The Catholic Physicians' Guild of Minneapolis will be host to the group.

## Committee Reports

**MEMBERSHIP**—Comment was made on the geographic location of the 75 Guilds now affiliated with the Federation. Because some eighteen to twenty-four months often elapse between inquiries to organize Guilds and their actual formation, it was urged that the member groups appoint a local committee to visit areas of their own dioceses, contacting Catholic physicians in an endeavor to organize

more groups; likewise, visits to neighboring dioceses where there are no Guilds was recommended. Contacting the Bishops of the respective dioceses was advised to be the first procedure to be followed. Chaplains of Newman Clubs and military installations should also be contacted for the formation of new Guilds. At present some 5,000 Catholic physicians belong to Guilds; it was indicated that there are possibly 40,000 Catholic doctors in the United States, representing a great membership potential still ahead.

**PROJECTS**—It was urged that Guilds sponsor a Memorial Mass at their state level, through the State Medical Society, offering same for deceased members of that group as well as the Guilds.

With the fasting regulations changed, it was recommended that evening Mass be sponsored wherever diocesan permission granted and follow same with supper meetings, in the hope that the later hour might be more convenient.

Also suggested was family type activities to which the wives of members would be invited. A general topic of dual interest would have to be selected for a program.

**CONSTITUTION**—With one change in wording of Article 6, Section 1, last part to read "Social Action Department of the N.C.W.C." instead of "Administrative Board of Bishops of the N.C.W.C.," the revised Constitution was discussed and will be put to vote for final ratification at the winter meeting of the Executive Board, publication of same having been effected.

**WAYS AND MEANS**—The financial statement for 1957 and proposed budget for 1958 were presented to the Board for

discussion. (Copy of same mailed to all interested Guilds.)

It was reported that the sum of \$3,000 would be mailed to the Treasurer of the Federation, representing surplus from the Jubilee celebration held in New York City on June 5, 1957.

#### New Business

It was moved that the Federation appoint Mr. Thomas Mahan an honorary advisor to the Federation, in acknowledgment of his outstanding contributions to the advancement of Catholic Action in behalf of the Federation. Motion passed.

An insurance plan was presented that would enable the Federation to carry out plans for a Scholarship Fund. It was voted to discuss the matter further at the winter meeting of the Executive Board.

The President asked that the Federation acknowledge, with thanks, contributions by Mr. Tom Casey of the Tampax Corporation and the Merck, Sharp & Dohme Corporation for the reception which followed the Board meeting.

The Board, wishing to express appreciation to Reverend John J. Flanagan S.J., Executive Director of The Catholic Hospital Association, for his years of guidance and interest in the Federation, voted a gift of expenses and \$500.00 for a European voyage, during the hospital and medical meetings in Brussels, July, 1958.

Meeting adjourned — 1:00 p. m.

Reception, Sir Francis Drake Hotel, 4 until 6 p. m. for Catholic physicians and families attending the A.M.A. convention.