Book Review of *Artificial Insemination in the Human*, by A.M.C.M. Schellen (Translated by Miss M.E. Hollander)

Gerald Kelly
more groups. Because visits to neighboring dioceses were 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. The Executive Director of The Catholic Association to Reverend John J. Flanagan, S.J., Secretary General of the Federation, requested a donation of $100 would be mailed to the Board for Guilds. It was reported that the sum of $100 would be mailed to the Board on behalf of the Federation, representing a donation from the Jubilee celebration held in New York City on June 5, 1957.

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 United Guilds.)

It was moved that the Federal Board of Directors, in acknowledgement of his outstanding contributions to the advancement of Catholic Action in behalf of the Federation, Motion approved.

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 appoint Mr. Thomas Mahan an honorary member to the Federation, in addition to the Federation, in acknowledgement of his outstanding contributions to the advancement of Catholic Action in behalf of the Federation, Motion approved.

A reception was planned 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 of Mr. Tom Casey of the Taft Corporation and the Merck, Sharp & Dohme Corporation for the reception which followed the Board meeting.

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.

Artificial Insemination in the Human

A. M. C. M. Schellen, M.D.

(Translated by Miss M. E. Hollander)

Review by
GERALD KELLY, S.J.

This book defies reviewing in the strict sense of the word. It is encyclopedic in scope—covering practically every conceivable aspect of artificial insemination, and covering each aspect thoroughly. It gives the history of the artificial-insemination movement, all the needed definitions, the methods of effecting insemination, public opinion and laws in various countries, and the religious, moral, and professional views on the practice. Dr. Schellen has not only visited various countries in order to know the practical and clinical problems and solutions; he has also covered a vast range of literature and thoroughly digested it. Readers of THE LINACRE QUARTERLY will be pleased to note that many of its articles are included in his citations and have had a definite influence on his conclusions.

The author is very firmly opposed to insemination of an unmarried woman. This, he says, "is nothing but a monstrosity." And, for a variety of reasons that are well explained and well defended, he opposes donor insemination of a married woman. His attitude on homologous insemination is not so clearly expressed; but one can safely say, at the minimum, that he is not enthusiastic about it. The general impression I gather from the book is that his conclusions would be very much the same as those that have been expressed more than once in these pages.

Anyone who is interested in the topic of artificial insemination should read Doctor Schellen's book. It is a truly monumental work.