

February 1959

Minutes - Executive Board Meeting National Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds: Winter Meeting - December 6-7, 1958, Leamington Hotel, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Catholic Physicians' Guilds

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MINUTES — EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC PHYSICIANS' GUILDS

WINTER MEETING — DECEMBER 6-7, 1958

LEAMINGTON HOTEL MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

ROLL CALL

Officers present:

William J. Egan, M.D. — President
Eusebius J. Murphy, M.D. — First Vice-President
Joseph E. Holoubek, M.D. — Second Vice-President
Clement P. Cunningham, M.D. — Third Vice-President
Daniel A. Mulvihill, M.D. — Honorary President

Affiliated Guilds represented:

Los Angeles, Calif. — Bernard J. O'Loughlin, M.D.
Rock Island, Ill. — F. E. Bollaert, M.D.
Dubuque, Iowa — T. J. Greteman, M.D.
Wichita, Kansas — B. N. Lies, M.D.
Shreveport, La. — Rev. Marvin Bordelon
Boston, Mass. — William J. Egan, M.D.
St. Cloud, Minn. — Joseph B. Gaida, M.D.
Great Falls, Mont. — Robert J. McGregor, M.D.
Albany, New York — William J. Fitzgerald, M.D.
Brooklyn, New York — George F. Price, M.D.
Bronx, New York — Daniel J. McAuliffe, M.D.
New York, N. Y. — Daniel A. Mulvihill, M.D.
Rockville Centre, N. Y. — Gerald P. J. Griffin, M.D.
Buffalo, New York — Charles A. Bauda, M.D.
Minneapolis, Minn. — F. J. Sweetzer, Jr., M.D.
Joseph I. Hamel, M.D.
Sioux Falls, So. Dakota — E. H. Kilbride, M.D.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin — M. B. Byrnes, M.D.

Others:

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Donald A. McGowan — Moderator
Rev. J. J. Flanagan, S.J. — Editor, THE LINACRE QUARTERLY
M. R. Kneifl — Executive Secretary
Miss Jean Read — Assistant Secretary

Sessions of the Federation Executive Board convened at 9:30 a. m. on Saturday, December 6, with reading of the minutes of the annual meeting held in San Francisco, California, June 25, 1958.

President's Report

Tribute was paid to Pope Pius XII for his many allocutions contributing to the welfare of the medical profession and those in allied fields. (See Dr. Egan's article "Pius XII: Pope of Medicine" in the November, 1958 issue of THE LINACRE QUARTERLY.) Allegiance was pledged to Pope John XXIII and congratulations extended to the new United

States Cardinals, His Eminence Richard J. Cushing and His Eminence John F. O'Hara.

Many areas were contacted for the formation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds. The "White Mass" was promoted in all sections of the country and Canada.

Several priest-physicians in missionary countries were accorded honorary life membership in the Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds.

Report of the Moderator

Report was made of the First Catholic International Health Conference held in Brussels, July 27-August 4, 1958. Various

health groups—hospitals, doctors, nurses, and pharmacists—had their own working sections, joining together for a final session. Resolutions urged further cooperation among the represented groups, helping under-developed countries; advance to health care institutions, hospitals and libraries and others financially; and encouragement of young doctors in their work in the Missions, training in health care.

Contact was made by a priest from America from China to organize Catholic Physicians' Guild in Hong Kong. There are several hundred potential members in the area.

Messages of condolence on the death of Pope Pius XII and congratulations on the election of Pope John XXIII were sent to Rome and duly acknowledged.

Observations re joining the National Council of Catholic Men were outlined. It was pointed out that members of Catholic Physicians' Guilds do belong to their own parish group and this would be a duplication of effort. Motion to negate the vote in San Francisco at the June Executive Board Meeting was made, seconded and passed.

THE LINACRE QUARTERLY

Report of 1958 circulation was made:
February — 8,946 mailed
May — 9,218 mailed
August — 9,335 mailed
November — 9,588 mailed

Material for the journal always welcome for publication. An abstract section is to be added with February, 1959 issue. In Los Angeles, California, an essay contest among medical students is being sponsored to stimulate interest in writing. Dogmatic theology to strengthen spiritual life was suggested as a topic for writing, to augment medico-moral issues. Research as part of the apostolate was suggested as another subject.

It was recommended that the editorial board and scope of THE LINACRE QUARTERLY be enlarged. It was suggested that material in the journal be read as part of the planned program of Guild meetings. To stimulate subscriptions, it was voted to advertise in appropriate outside journals. Mailing lists of allied fields will be explored.

Membership Report

Some 5,424 Catholic physicians and dentists belong to 76 Guilds affiliated with the Federation. It was reported that many Guilds have been formulated

through hospital contacts. The "White Mass" has been a stimulating influence for these groups. The support of the ordinary of the diocese is a prime factor in the welfare of Guilds.

A new promotion brochure is to be prepared that will detail the objectives of the Federation and Guilds, relate the history, outline projects and give other informative data.

A newsletter "Guilds in Action" will be issued periodically and mailed to all Federation members. The publication will report activities, suggest projects, etc.

National Federation Constitution

With one change, the ratification of the revised constitution of the National Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds was effected. Article IV, Section 1, reading: "Active constituent Guilds shall pay yearly fees of \$25.00, per Guild, to cover affiliation with the National Federation," by vote, was changed to read: "Active constituent Guilds shall pay yearly fee of \$1.00 per capita, for all members, to cover affiliation with the National Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds."

Federation Exhibit

The Federation will again exhibit at the A.M.A. convention in Atlantic City, June 8-12, 1959. Changes in the display were authorized. Guild members in the eastern part of the nation will be asked to take responsibility for manning the booth.

Executive Board Meeting

The annual Executive Board Meeting will be held in Atlantic City, June 10, 1959. Election of officers will be held. Plans for a Memorial Mass will be made by a committee of the officers. A reception or dinner will also take place.

Pope Pius XII Publication

To perpetuate the many pronouncements of Pope Pius XII for the welfare of the medical profession and allied fields, consideration is being given to publishing these important papers.

Health of Religious

It was recommended that a committee be appointed to study the health of religious and report findings to those responsible for their care. Guild members would be requested to work with hospitals in local areas when advice sought. Superiors appraised of available assist-

ance would be of benefit to The Catholic Hospital Association.

Booklet Distributed by Planned Parenthood Group

The Planned Parenthood group distributed a large quantity of a booklet to physicians throughout the country, the content of which advocated birth control. To refute the statements, it was decided not to make a national issue of the matter, but to present positive, scientific data on the local level.

As a future aid to meet such controversies on the proper level, a Public Relations Committee was appointed with Dr. Daniel A. Mulvihill of New York City as chairman and including Dr. George Price of Brooklyn, Dr. Arthur J. Wallingford of Albany, and two others to be named later. Mobilizing such a committee to study situations that develop, in the light of their proper perspective, and advise the Federation will insure judicious public statements.

New York City Hospitals Problem

The care of obstetric patients in New York City hospitals causing national publicity in recent weeks was a topic of discussion. The New York area Guilds were asked for a statement in the matter of the controversy over dissemination of birth control information and devices in municipal institutions. It was agreed that the issue should have been approached on the medical level only. The history of the New York problem will be on file with the Public Relations Committee to be sent out at the request of local Guilds, should a repetition occur in other areas of the country.

Survey of Catholic Hospital Staff Needs

A questionnaire sent to Catholic hospitals asking that areas of medical staff needs be indicated is being studied in an endeavor to encourage Catholic physicians now in heavily populated sections of the country to go to other areas where help is urgently sought, to set up practice. Dr. James E. Bowes, of Salt Lake City, Utah, conducting the survey, will present his findings in a future issue of THE LINACRE QUARTERLY.

Finances

The 1958 financial statement of the Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds was examined and the proposed budget for 1959 approved.

Dr. Daniel A. Mulvihill, chairman of the Silver Jubilee Committee of the National Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds, presented a certified check in the sum of \$4,361.75 for the general treasury.

This sum represents the balance on the Committee account of all monies collected for the celebration of the Silver Jubilee of the organization in New York City, 1957, after the payment of all known indebtedness and obligation incurred by the Committee in carrying out its objective. The bank account was opened until December 1, 1958 to allow for the possibility of delayed or overlooked financial obligations. A vote of thanks was again accorded Dr. Mulvihill and his Committee for their splendid work in making the anniversary celebration the great spiritual, social, and financial success that it was.

Committee Reports

The Projects Committee suggested activities to increase the spirituality of the member groups. Those pointed in that direction include: preparation to conduct Cana Conferences; work with priest groups; days of recollection; Memorial Masses for members of State Medical Societies; a Holy Hour for members; assist with the education of priests and seminarians in medical matters.

Guild Reports

Guild representatives present gave an account of their year's activities. Reports will appear in the bulletin "Guilds in Action."

Thomas Linacre Award

It was voted to make this Award in June each year, selection to be made from articles included in THE LINACRE QUARTERLY during the previous calendar year. The 1958 Award will be made in Atlantic City in June, 1959.

Other Business

The matter of paramedical groups joining the Federation was discussed. It was determined that local Catholic Physicians' Guilds may admit individuals as members of their own organizations, but as organized Guilds no delegate could represent them nor hold office in the National Federation.

Foreign internes and residents completing their work in the United States and returning home wish to maintain associate membership. For these a membership card is to be prepared.

LINACRE QUARTERLY

Sister-physicians were voted honorary membership in the National Federation. Scrolls will be prepared for them.

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Donald A. McGowan, Moderator of the Federation, was honored at dinner on Saturday evening on the occasion of his twenty-fifth anniversary in the priesthood.

Dr. Joseph J. Toland, Jr. was named Catholic Physician of the Year. Awarded because of illness, the Award is being delivered to Dr. Toland at his home in

Philadelphia. Well known as a surgeon, Dr. Toland is also a leader in Catholic Action, deeply interested in the work of the missions.

On Sunday morning Executive Board members, their wives and friends assisted at Monsignor McGowan's Mass in the chapel of St. Mary's Hospital in Minneapolis. Breakfast followed and the remainder of the Board meeting was held in the lounge of the nurses' home. Adjourned: 1:30 p. m.

December 7, 1958

Practice Available . . .

Pierce City, Missouri, a town located in the Ozark mountain region, is urgently in need of a general practitioner. The population is 1,200. Agriculture is the main industry but there are other commercial enterprises. A furnished office would be available. St. Vincent's Hospital is five miles away, at Monett, Missouri. Write to Mr. Kieth Stotts, president of the Chamber of Commerce, Pierce City for further particulars.

A letter from Rev. Raymond Ryan, O.F.M., Cap., chaplain of St. Anthony's Hospital, Hays, Kansas, advises of the need for Catholic physicians in this city. Further particulars can be obtained by addressing Father Ryan at St. Joseph's Church in Hays.

Texas has sent an appeal. The Family Life Bureau, NCWC, Washington, D.C., has received a letter from Rev. Andrew Marthaler, St. Joseph Church, P. O. Box M, Rowena, Texas, reading, in part, as follows:

"In this large country community, we have a spread-out population. Right here the people are predominantly German and Catholic. Our doctor is elderly and about to retire. I've been wondering if ever you receive requests from doctors for the old type country-style practice. If such a rarity does occur, I'd like for you to refer them to me.

We do seem to have several wonderful openings in this country place for some enterprising young men. They would require some of the 'country-style' ability and talent. Right now we have a crying need for a good old-fashioned 'blacksmith' type man. Such a person probably would be swamped with work in no time at all."

Father Marthaler would be glad to hear from any interested physician.

There are at least twenty-five Catholic hospitals throughout the country in urgent need of anesthesiologists. Catholic physicians interested, contact Rev. J. J. Flanagan, S.J., Executive Director, The Catholic Hospital Association, 1438 So. Grand Blvd., St. Louis 4, Mo., for particulars.