

February 1961

President's Page

Eusebius J. Murphy

Follow this and additional works at: <http://epublications.marquette.edu/lnq>

Recommended Citation

Murphy, Eusebius J. (1961) "President's Page," *The Linacre Quarterly*: Vol. 28 : No. 1 , Article 1.
Available at: <http://epublications.marquette.edu/lnq/vol28/iss1/1>

President's Page

The continuing growth of the National Federation was well exemplified at the Executive Board meeting held in Washington, D. C. on December 3, 1960. There were 23 Guilds represented; 46 persons were present including officers, delegates, moderators, and observers. Dentists from the National Federation of Guilds of St. Apollonia were present for the first time, to observe the function of your Executive Board. Dr. John Cavanagh, the founder of the Guild of Catholic Psychiatrists was an interested observer.

The Federation now has a membership of 94 Guilds that number 6,000 physicians. A few short years ago, in 1948 to be exact, there were 15 active Guilds. At present there are several more in the process of affiliation and we are looking forward to our 100th by summer.

We urge all Guilds to participate in Executive Board meetings and the activities of the Federation by appointing their delegates early. The progress of the Federation depends on the help and advice of these representatives and success to date is a tribute to the men who have served as delegates in the past. The next Board meeting is in New York City on June 28, 1961. It will follow the Memorial Mass to be offered at St. Patrick's Cathedral, scheduled for 9:00 a. m. Time: 11:00 a. m. Commodore Hotel.

Last summer, in London, your president conferred with Mr. Vincent C. Sullivan, the chairman of the X International Congress of Catholic Physicians scheduled for July 9-14, 1962, in London. He asked the support of American physicians in two ways: first, in numbers to attend the Congress, and second, papers to be delivered by our members. The theme of the Congress is "The Catholic Doctor in a Changing Society." I urge you to consider this meeting in making your plans for the summer of 1962.

The Committee for Health of Religious completed a very difficult task assigned in 1959. Under the very able and active leadership of Dr. James T. Nix, New Orleans, forms for pre-admission and follow-up physical examinations for all Religious have been completed and given to The Catholic Hospital Association for publication and distribution. It was at the Association's request that Dr. William J. Egan, our immediate past-president, appointed the Committee, and now their work is done. They deserve a "Well done! Thank you!" for a tremendous undertaking.

In December 1960 through the alertness of Dr. Nick Accardo, president of the New Orleans Guild, we were made aware of the intentions of G. D. Searle & Co. to produce a closed circuit national TV program scheduled for January 18, 1961 on the use of Enovid. It is no secret that the new drug has been talked about as a method of oral birth control. This possible form of use for this purpose disturbed us. Therefore, your president immediately telephoned the officers of the Searle Company making known our objections to the promotion of any drug or mechanical means of birth control, both on moral grounds and as being objectionable to the religious beliefs of our Catholic doctors and Catholic patients. As your president, I would like to advise our members that this matter has been carefully covered by your Federation, and we shall continue to watch this and other proposals that would threaten the basic religious principles upon which our Federation was founded and the moral ideals which have nurtured our continued growth.

EUSEBIUS J. MURPHY, M.D.