

February 1960

Minutes, Winter Meetings, Executive Board, National Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds, December 5, 1959, Baker Hotel, Dallas Texas

Catholic Physicians' Guilds

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MINUTES
WINTER MEETING
Executive Board
NATIONAL FEDERATION
OF CATHOLIC PHYSICIANS' GUILDS
December 5, 1959

Dallas, Texas

Baker Hotel

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

Affiliated Guilds represented:

Los Angeles, California — Fred K. Amerongen, M.D.
Denver, Colorado — J. C. Owens, M.D.
Rock Island, Illinois — C. P. Cunningham, M.D.
Peoria, Illinois — Reverend John Weishar
Baton Rouge, Louisiana — W. M. Luikart, M.D.
New Orleans, Louisiana — Warren Hebert, M.D.
Shreveport, Louisiana — E. R. Morgan, M.D.
Boston, Massachusetts — William J. Egan, M.D.
Kansas City, Missouri — T. S. Bourke, M.D.
Brooklyn, New York — Vincent S. Maggio, M.D.
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma — Frank E. Darrow, M.D.
Dallas, Texas — George A. Schenewerk, M.D.
Houston, Texas — Fred M. Taylor, M.D.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin — George J. Collentine, Jr., M.D.
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada — John N. R. Scatiff, M.D.

Others:

Rt. Rev. Msgr. D. A. McGowan — Federation Moderator
Rev. J. J. Flanagan, S.J. — Editor, THE LINACRE QUARTERLY
Mr. M. R. Kneiff — Consultant
Miss Jean Read — Executive Secretary
Rt. Rev. Msgr. H. P. Lohmann — Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Very Rev. Victor B. Brezik — Houston, Texas
Rev. Marvin J. Bordelon — Shreveport, Louisiana
Rev. John J. Lynch, S.J. — Weston College, Weston, Mass.
John J. Masterson, M.D. — Brooklyn, N. Y.
J. Jackson, M.D. — Shreveport, La.
Louis V. Landry, M.D. — Shreveport, La.
L. Brown, M.D. — Oklahoma City, Okla.

Sessions of the National Federation Board convened at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, December 5, 1959, with reading of the minutes of the annual meeting held in Atlantic City, New Jersey, June 10, 1959. In the absence of the secretary, they were read by Miss Jean Read, executive secretary.

President's Report

Dr. Egan commended the work of the

Dallas Guild, under the guidance of Dr. George W. Schenewerk, president, is servicing the Federation exhibit at the clinical sessions of the A.M.A. and preparing for the Board meeting.

Report of efforts to stimulate the organization of more Guilds was made. Three were added since the annual meeting in June: Oakland, California and Austin and Fort Worth, Texas.

National recognition of the Federation

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in the press by non-Catholics was mentioned.

Much of the president's time was devoted to correspondence and speaking engagements in his efforts to promote interest in the Guild movement.

Report of the Moderator

Report was made of visit to Rome and audience with His Holiness, Pope John XXIII, during the 100th anniversary celebration of the North American College.

Interest in the formation of Guilds in the Chicago area is again stimulated. It is hoped that several will be organized there in the very near future.

Enthusiasm for the "White Mass" and participation in many areas was reported. Monsignor McGowan gave the sermon at the Mass honoring St. Luke in Philadelphia, on October 18.

The Linacre Quarterly Report

The editor reported that circulation of the Federation's official journal now exceeds 10,000. Father Flanagan paid tribute to the excellent work of Miss Jean Read and her secretary, Miss Angela Unger, in procuring subscriptions and preparing the editorial material. THE LINACRE QUARTERLY serves many purposes and is mainly a bond to keep together the 5,500 physician readers who are members of Guilds.

Editorial material is always in demand. Articles of significance in the Catholic medical apostolate and that will help to direct the future of medicine are highly desired. Suggestions for topics include several related to hospitals, e.g., "Charity in Catholic Hospitals"; "Ethics of a Closed Medical Staff in Hospitals"; "Duties and Obligations of a Chief of Staff"; "Moral Responsibility of Those Serving on the Tissue Committee"; "Catholic Physicians Help to Improve Quality of Catholic Hospitals." Other titles — "Collection Agencies Among Doctors"; "Health of Religious Program"; "Informing non-Catholic Physicians"; "Reduced Rates for Care of Large Families"; "Family Counseling"; "Recovery, Incorporated"; "The Physician's Role in Instruction of Seminarians"; "The Population Explosion," and others. A Question and Answer section was advocated; contributions for this are urged.

The Editorial Committee was asked to develop a plan to encourage writing among medical students with a Linacre Award made for the best material. It was suggested that Guilds sponsor such

a project locally and submit contributions to THE LINACRE QUARTERLY editor.

Membership Report

It was reported that 87 Catholic Physicians' Guilds now comprise the national organization, with membership totaling 5,534. To increase membership in local Guilds, it was suggested that Pastors be contacted for the names of Catholic physicians moving into new parishes. Through the White Mass, retreats, days of recollection and other activities new members can be added.

Bishops in Mississippi and South Carolina are encouraging the organization of Guilds in their dioceses. Death of Catholic physicians is the only obstacle.

The Los Angeles Guild in its efforts to increase membership has appointed regional representatives with hospitals as headquarters. New physicians joining staffs are contacted.

The listing of Catholic physicians in the diocesan directory is another source of membership recruitment. Contacting the chiefs of staff of hospitals provides another avenue. Inviting medical students to attend Guild meetings can lay ground for joining or organizing Guilds in their location of practice at a later date.

Guilds are organized in 87 of the 132 dioceses of the United States.

Federation Exhibit Report

Members of the Dallas Guild assumed the staffing of the Federation booth during the Clinical Sessions of the American Medical Association held in that city, December 1-4. Appreciation was expressed for their efforts and the excellent service rendered to the visitors.

The decision to repeat the exhibit at the next Clinical Meetings will be made at the June Board meeting.

Catholic Physician of the Year Award

Announcement was made of the 1959 Award. Dr. John J. Masterson of Brooklyn, New York was named this year's recipient.

Guilds are urged to send in their nominations early in the year. A card is sent to each Guild president to suggest candidates. Biographical material must accompany each nomination.

To qualify, a candidate must be Catholic and his name must clear through the local Chancery office. Nominees need not necessarily be members of a Guild.

Nun-Physician Honorary Memberships

The names of eighty-two nun-physicians serving various religious communities throughout the world have been accumulated and the Sisters have been accorded honorary membership in the National Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds. To represent them, Sister M. Celine, S.M.I.C., M.D., engaged in general practice at Holy Cross Hospital, Austin, Texas, received her honorary membership in behalf of all. The communities included thus far are: Medical Mission Sisters, Medical Missionaries of Mary, Maryknoll Sisters, Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, Sisters of Mercy, Marist Sisters, and Sisters of Charity of Nazareth.

Health Care of Religious Program

The need for a health care program for Religious was explained by Father John J. Flanagan, S.J., executive director of The Catholic Hospital Association. Requests from a number of religious communities for assistance in such a project have interested a group of Federation Guild members to prepare a Medical Examination for Religious form which was submitted to the Executive Board for consideration. A brochure is to be prepared at a later date. Efforts will be made to secure the names of all community physicians for their assistance in such a program. The pilot plan will be given trial in the State of Louisiana. The Catholic Hospital Association will be the information center and distribute all literature. The Federation will undertake to promote the project. Religious communities will contact the Catholic Hospital Association for the forms and other data.

A committee was appointed to adopt the examination form submitted and report at the next meeting.

Thomas Linacre Award

It was voted to continue with the Award program but to judge articles when and at such time as an outstanding contribution is made to promote the interests of THE LINACRE QUARTERLY in its efforts to express opinions based on sound medicine, moral issues, and ethical principles. This does not necessarily mean an annual Award.

Annual Meeting

It was voted to hold the annual meeting of the Executive Board in Miami Beach, Florida, June 15, 1960.

The Catholic Physicians' Guild of

Miami Beach will take over the management and staffing of the Federation booth at the A.M.A. exhibits during its convention, June 13-17.

The Federation will also offer an evening Memorial Mass for deceased members of the medical profession.

The Executive Board will be host at a Hospitality Hour to follow the Mass. All Catholic physicians and their families attending the A.M.A. convention will be welcome.

Committee Reports

Projects Committee reported progress on its plan for the health care of religious, previously mentioned. Encouraging the wives of members to take part in Guild activities was urged. Retreats for the spiritual needs of physicians were emphasized. Opportunity to address high school students regarding the choice of medicine as a profession was advocated.

The Exhibition Committee indicated that consideration is being given to revision of the display that has been used in its present format for the past four years.

The Membership Committee reported that a letter had been sent to all Guild presidents during the past year encouraging the increase of local membership and suggesting the ways and means mentioned in the Membership Report above.

Guild Reports

Detailed reports will appear in *Guild in Action*, the Federation newsletter. In resumé, all Guilds represented reported that the White Mass was observed; retreats were conducted for many; Conferences were sponsored.

Finances

The central office reported a solvent condition. An estimated \$7,500.00 will be on deposit as of December 31. An audited report of the 1959 financial status will be presented at the June, 1960 Board meeting.

Election of Officers

The Nominating Committee appointed at the annual Board meeting in June 1959 presented the following slate of officers for 1960-1961: Dr. Eusebius J. Murphy, Bronx, New York, President; Dr. J. E. Holoubek, Shreveport, La., First Vice-President; Dr. C. P. Cunningham, Rock Island, Illinois, Second Vice-President; Dr. Gerard P. J. Griffin, Brooklyn, N.Y., Third Vice-President; Dr. Robert M. Eiben, Cleveland, Ohio, Secretary, and Dr. Fred M. Taylor, Houston, Texas,

Treasurer. Unanimous vote named this group to serve the National Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds for the next two years.

New Business

The Federation Board voted to send an offering of \$100.00 to Ospedale Del Bambino Gesu, in Rome.

Announcement was made of the 9th International Congress of Catholic Doctors to be held in Munich, July 25-August 1, 1960. American Catholic physicians are urged to attend. The central office of the Federation would like the names of any planning to attend the sessions.

The Catholic Psychiatrists' Guild is desirous of increasing its membership. The secretary is being given permission to write to the Presidents of all Guilds for the names of members in this field.

The Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Hospitals published by The Catholic Hospital Association as a Code of Ethics for use in member institutions were explained to the Board. The outgrowth of the use of the Directives was

the publication, in booklet form, of *Medico-Moral Problems* by Reverend Gerald Kelly, S.J. After ten years of adding to the series, the material was revised and republished in one volume, the first printing of which sold 12,000 copies (price, \$3.00). A second printing includes a hard-cover edition, available at \$5.00. Copies may be secured at the Association office, 1438 So. Grand Blvd., St. Louis 4, Missouri.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

The Dallas Guild was host to the Executive Board and the physicians' wives at a reception and dinner beginning at 7:00 p.m. The Catholic Physician of the Year Award was made. The Nun-Physician honorary memberships were bestowed. Reverend John J. Lynch, S.J., professor of Moral Theology at Weston College, Weston, Mass., was guest speaker. His topic was "Human Experimentation: Medico-Moral Aspects."

His Excellency, Bishop Thomas K. Gorman, D.D., of Dallas, was among the honored guests.

