August 1963

Editorial: "What Kind of a Doctor are You, Jeemie?"

Catholic Physicians' Guilds

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islanders. Three days later the Cursillo was successfully concluded. Catapulted from this insignificant beginning, it was repeated eighty times during the next three years, inducing a marvelous new religious vitality on Majorca. Under the apostolic direction of Dr. Bonnin who constantly emphasized that this Movement was not intended to supplant the work of any Church group or institution but rather to bring a new vigor to all such endeavors, nevertheless, it did spread throughout all Spanish-speaking countries in Europe and South and Central America.

In May 1957, two Spanish air force officers, Augustine Polomino and Bernard Vadell, both Cursillistas, were assigned to the U. S. Air Force Base in Waco, Texas for training. They were appalled at the religious apathy of the Spanish-speaking residents of the area, and imbued with grace from their Cursillo in Spain, they were moved to effective action. A Cursillo was organized and the Movement immediately spread throughout Texas; soon every diocese in the State was organizing its own group. From this beginning the Cursillo has reached many sections of our country and in each place has left the tell-tale sign of a vitalized, apostolic laity.

The Cursillo itself is usually attended by some forty to sixty men who live together for three days in an atmosphere of joy, prayer, and brotherhood; the entire group is divided into smaller groups of approximately ten men who work together in studying the substance of the lectures. Five lectures are given each day on specific topics of Christianity by laymen who are trained for their work; these are the professors; the remainder are given by the priest conducting the Cursillo. There is complete participation by all men in the study of each lecture, utilizing all methods of learning. There is daily Mass and Communion, and frequent recourse to the help of the Lord in visits to the Blessed Sacrament.

Much could be said about the magnificent and manifold fruits of the Cursillo, but such hasty expressions are inevitably cast in the role of exaggeration by the average listener. Let it suffice to say that the flow of grace, joy, enthusiasm, and zeal resembles that of Pentecost Sunday, when “There were added to the Church that day 3,000 persons.”

Detailed information regarding the Cursillo Movement may be obtained from the following Cursillo centers:

Phoenix Cursillo Center
909 E. Washington St.
Phoenix 34, Arizona
The Ultrega Magazine

Saginaw Cursillo Center
St. Joseph’s Church
606 E. 6th St.
Saginaw, Michigan
The De Colores Magazine

Editorial:

“What Kind of a Doctor are You, Jeemie?”

Pope John XXIII was interviewing a doctor from Philadelphia. The great man stepped down from his dais, extended his hand and said in not-too-good English “How are you, Jeemie — He has been telling me about you.”

“He,” an Archbishop, presently Papal Nuncio to England, formerly Bishop of Philadelphia, a poor boy sprung from the coal regions of Pennsylvania, was introducing his mother’s doctor to his supreme Pontiff, the son of an Italian hill farmer. What did these three men, surrounded by pomp and treasure, talk about on that 1961 afternoon?

“Tell me, Jeemie, what kind of a doctor are you?”

“I am a cardiologist, your holiness.”

“No, no. I mean what kind of a doctor? Are you a rich man’s doctor or a poor man’s doctor like St. Damian?”

“I am afraid I am a poor man’s doctor. I am a poor man and most of my patients are poor people.”

“Oh, that is very good! The world needs many, many poor man’s doctors.”

Then, switching to more comfortable Latin, with the Archbishop translating, the Pope inquired about the training of doctors and nurses, the state of the hospitals and the medical care of poor people in Philadelphia.

He then sent his blessing and best wishes to the doctors, nurses, sisters, patients, and hospitals of Philadelphia. The audience was over.

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“What kind of a doctor are you, Jeemie?”

This should have happened to all the new Doctor Jeemies who received diplomas (many still written in Latin), this June. Truly the world needs many, many poor man’s doctors.

H.R.

(Reprinted from Philadelphia Medicine, June 23, 1963, published weekly by the Philadelphia County Medical Society, with kind permission of the editor.)