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Change of Editors

Catholic Physicians' Guilds

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Change of Editors

On the contents page of this issue will be found the name of William J. Egan, M.D., Editor. Doctor Egan takes over the title from Reverend John J. Flanagan, S.J., whose wish is that this post be filled by one in the medical profession.

Father Flanagan has many duties as executive director of the Catholic Hospital Association but since 1947, when he was asked to serve as consulting editor of our journal, found the time to guide our work and assist wherever he could in the difficult task of securing material for The Linacre Quarterly. He now feels the time has come to transfer these responsibilities to those of the Federation in the field of medicine. We will not lose his wise guidance; we will have his assistance as consulting editor.

Our officers asked Dr. Egan to accept the post of editor knowing full well that he is a busy surgeon in Boston but also aware that he has the qualifications we need. He is a graduate of Boston College, 1932 and Harvard Medical School, 1936. Since 1938 Dr. Egan has been active in the affairs of the St. Luke Guild of Catholic Physicians of Boston. From 1957 to 1959 he served as president of the National Federation. A writer himself, his contributions have appeared in The Linacre Quarterly, The Catholic Nurse and other journals.

Professionally, Dr. Egan is visiting surgeon on the staffs of St. Elizabeth's and Carney Hospitals in Boston. He is a member of the Medical Advisory Committee of the Catholic Hospital Association.

He resides with his wife, Mary, and their eleven children, in Newton Highlands, Massachusetts. In 1956 Dr. Bill and Mary received the National Family Life Award. In 1959 St. Joseph's College, Emmitsburg, Maryland, bestowed on Mrs. Egan the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science.

Dr. Egan is known for his honest opinions and forthright thinking on matters both medical and moral; his appraisals as editor will be most trustworthy. His acceptance as editor is a delight to those at the central office who will continue to produce the journal under his guidance. He is well aware of the difficult task of gathering material in the tradition of the early editors of The Linacre Quarterly. It is hoped that his burden will be lightened by the assistance of the Editorial Board listed in the masthead. With this fine group and the blessing of Father Flanagan to whom we will be unendingly grateful, may our journal forge ahead in its endeavor to include material of special interest in the philosophy of medicine and the advancement of ethical principles in medical practice.

J.R.

President's Page

The Executive Board of the National Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds held sessions in San Francisco, June 24. Attendance at the meeting as well as participation in the Memorial Mass was gratifying. The Minutes have been mailed to the delegates and president of each constituent Guild.

On behalf of the Board, we wish to thank Dr. Rosalie Reardon, vice-president of the Oakland, California Guild, for her valuable assistance in the planning of the Federation's activities. We also congratulate Dr. Reardon on receiving the Pro Ecclesia medal from Pope Paul VI for her outstanding contribution to the lay apostolate.

During past association with the National Federation we have been reminded by many former presidents that much of the business of the Executive Board could be conducted around a small conference table. Today it is necessary that executive sessions be preceded by meetings of our standing committees. Not only was this true in San Francisco, but in addition there was special representation of our Federation during the same week at two other national meetings in other parts of the country. The chairman of our Family Life Committee, Dr. Thomas A. Hayes of our Grand Rapids, Michigan Guild, attended the National Family Life Conference in Washington, D.C. and Dr. William J. Egan, editor of The Linacre Quarterly, and member of the Boston, Mass. Guild, participated in the annual convention of the Catholic Hospital Association in New York City.

During the next few months we would like to ask our Guilds to direct attention to the New Orleans Executive Board meeting and stimulate attendance for the Conference on Medical Education and Research. This is an open convention, and the entire membership is invited to the meeting. Catholic physicians who are not members of the Federation will also be welcomed. Hospitals will also be invited to send representatives. The sessions are being planned with the cooperation of The Catholic Hospital Association. The theme of the meeting is: "The Apostolate of Excellence in Professional Life and Community Hospital Activity." Nationally known speakers will participate. Dates scheduled for the Conference are November 13-14 to be held at the Monteleone Hotel, New Orleans.

In addition, sessions will be devoted to Medical Mission projects of the Guilds and to activities concerned with the Health Care of Clergy and Religious Program. We look forward to your cooperation in this endeavor with a large delegation from your Guild.

CLEMENT P. CUNNINGHAM, M.D.

AUGUST, 1964