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## President's Page

Fred M. Taylor

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# The President's Page

The problem of effectiveness of officers and board members is as old as the history of organizations and of boards of directors. There is constant need, in avoiding board and executive service that is empty and noncontributive, or mostly words and no action, for officers and board members to be chosen with care, selecting those persons capable of working constantly to increase their own individual effectiveness.

An organization, to be effective, must be adaptable and responsive to change and need. And those controlling its course must be informed and critical, willing to engage in continuous self-enlightenment, and to learn more and more about their organization and responsibilities to the realities of problems around them. In this connection the most effective boards are those where continuing attention is paid to the officers and to the composition of boards, appointing persons with special skills and organizational know-how and nominating persons for office with abilities to develop and evolve programs beneficial to the organization.

Therefore, as I complete my term of office — as president of the National Federation and as chairman of the Board of Directors — I cannot be too grateful to those who have worked extremely hard to increase their understanding of the National Federation and to carry out the tasks of their commitment. Nor can I be too appreciative to those who have participated actively and constructively in recent years in the reorganization of the Federation, nor to those constituting the organization's first "official" Board of Directors.

It is satisfying to know that the process of establishing the regional directors was completed this year and that the machinery of regional organization and readjustment of relationship between the guilds and the National Federation on a regional basis is starting to proceed under the guidance of regional directors. Such a scheme is not easy to work out in full detail. And I should ask guild officers and members for their cooperation and assistance in realizing that principles of organization conceived on broad national lines must develop according to regional and local realities. For each guild is an individual and must be treated as such, as indeed each individual guild member should be regarded.

I should like each Guild and Associate of the National Federation to know that my wide relationships with their presidents or officers during the past year have been generally gratifying and cordial. To each, as well as to each officer and regional director of the National Federation, and to the President-Elect, Moderator, the Episcopal Advisor's delegate, the Editor of THE LINACRE QUARTERLY, the Executive Secretary, and the consultants I express my heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the consideration and cooperation shown me during the year.

FRED M. TAYLOR, M.D.