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President's Page

Gerard P.J. Griffin

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The programs of the Federation are developing very successfully under the capable direction of our various chairmen. Several coming events must be brought to your attention for your generous cooperation. First is the AMA's annual meeting in New York City, June 20-25. There are two very worthwhile programs that relate to medicine and religion. Our Annual Mass will be held on Wednesday, June 23 at St. Patrick's Cathedral at 8:00 a.m. You have been notified of this in *Guilds in Action*. Dr. Francis Cardinal Spellman will celebrate the Mass. Breakfast at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel will follow at 9:30 a.m. Francis J. Braceland, M.D. will deliver the first of the S.J. Memorial Lecture. Dr. Braceland is internationally recognized for his extensive writings and lectures in the field of psychiatry and its moral implications. A Reservation form for the Breakfast is to be found elsewhere in this issue.

The AMA is devoting Sunday evening, June 20, to the general theme of Medicine and Religion. Reverend Dr. Paul B. McCleave, Director of the AMA Department of Medicine and Religion has arranged a most thoughtful and stimulating program. (An article by Dr. McCleave appears in this issue.) The initial program of this department was presented in 1963 when those who attended will recall the excellent presentations made by Bishop Fulton J. Sheen and Dr. Edward Rynearson, introducing this concept of religious and medical cooperation, so vital to the complete care of the patients. The New York physicians, as hosts, are making determined efforts to bring together the clergy and the doctors as a team effort for our mutual edification and dialogue. It seems a logical step for each Guild to participate with them in this exchange.

Even though schedules may be heavy, the Federation hopes to organize a "Day at the Fair" and especially some program at the Vatican Pavilion. Please make a firm resolution to participate.

And finally, we are very thankful for the increasing involvement of the Guilds in the Mission Activities Program. Dr. Joe Grady and most of the officers were in Chicago for the CICOP (Catholic Inter-American Cooperation Program) meeting in January. Our welcome from the Latin-American Bishops and the informed lay advisors was heart-warming and humbling. The devotion of these truly poor and humble servants of God who face the massive problems of socio-economic, cultural and medical revolutions in the countries of Latin-America could only emphasize how meager are our present efforts. Dr. Grady will be informing us of the plans for deeper participation of each Guild physician. The very core of our lives and our vocations is medicine and it is in the medical apostolate that we can fulfill our Christian apostolic mission of caring for our neighbor. We must do this well in today's context of our obligations and duties. Let our daily involvements so shape our world that we will be molded in return by the goal we strive to attain.

GERARD P. J. GRIFFIN, M.D.