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Editorial: Milwaukee and Marquette

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EDITORIAL MILWAUKEE AND MARQUETTE

The City of Milwaukee has a population of more than 500,000 and is recognized as Wisconsin's center of commerce, its leading industrial city and its most populous urban area. It has become one of the greatest electrical manufacturing centers in the world, as well as a center for the manufacture of heavy construction equipment. Indeed, it is the nation's eighth largest industrial area, producing goods valued at more than three billion dollars. In addition, it is the home of Schlitz, Miller, Pabst, and other famous names in beer. It was not always so. In 1818 the first permanent white settler arrived in this area on the shores of Lake Michigan. He was a trader and an agent for the American Fur Company. Constant reminders of this intrepid trader can be found currently in the names of streets, buildings, schools: Soisson Juneau. The opening of the Erie Canal in New York in 1825 signaled the first mass westward migration and by 1834 a remarkable period of growth had begun in Milwaukee. By 1861, when the storm clouds of the Civil War burst over Fort Sumter, Milwaukee had a population of 45,000. The past one hundred years have brought more substantial growth to this Midwest metropolis until today it stands as one of the major cities of our nation.

What about the medical community during these years of growth? At the onset of the Civil War, 65 physicians were actively practicing in Milwaukee. Prior to 1900 many outstanding physicians who had been trained in the East or in Europe brought high standards of care to the population. Marquette University Medical School came on the scene in 1913 and was able to exert an immeasurable and beneficial effect on the community of Milwaukee. During the past fifty years the health of Milwaukee and Marquette School of Medicine have become intertwined and inseparable. Fifty percent of the more than 1,000 physicians practicing in Milwaukee are graduates of Marquette. Among these graduates are outstanding physicians who have been instrumental in the building and improvement of hospitals and health care facilities of the local community.

This issue of the LINACRE QUARTERLY is devoted to Milwaukee. A variety of articles from our many distinguished physicians and contributors may find a unifying theme in the motto of Marquette: *A commitment to intellectual and moral excellence*. Different aspects of medical education are discussed in rather stimulating and thought provoking fashion. With burgeoning and crippling costs of medical education, the Catholic medical school is being forced to re-evaluate its basic premises.

Pastoral medicine, religion and psychiatry, personnel from Milwaukee and/or Marquette in the missions, and other topics are lucidly discussed in several articles. The strength of our local chapter of the Catholic Physicians' Guild and its dynamic moderator, Father Bisenius, are presented in addition to an article on possible future projects of the Guild.

The vibrant ideas expressed in these articles are but a manifestation of the energetic thought and dynamic action of the members of the medical community of Milwaukee and the Catholic Physicians' Guild. We feel certain that the future holds great promise for this community as long as we have the type of men and ideas as represented in this issue of the LINACRE QUARTERLY.

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