Executive Board, Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds Annual Meeting: June 1957

Catholic Physicians' Guilds

Follow this and additional works at: http://epublications.marquette.edu/lnq

Recommended Citation
Available at: http://epublications.marquette.edu/lnq/vol24/iss3/10
The case is recognized as an unexplainable cure. The documents are then referred to the Bishop of Lourdes and may ask help of other experts. If the case is accepted by the medical committee, the Bishop of Lourdes sends the documents to the diocese in which the patient lives, asking the Bishop to create a canonical commission to determine whether the cure had supernatural favor. This commission studies the case and proclaims whether or not the cure is a miracle. Up to this time the word miracle is not used.

The Medical Bureau is very well organized and numbers some 7,000 members as of October 1956. These members elect their own officers and are responsible for the maintenance of the affairs of the Medical Bureau. Their diagnostic equipment (electro-cardiographic and x-ray) leaves much to be desired by American standards, but the doctors themselves represent some of the best talent in the medical field. American medicine and the American physicians will benefit from association with one of the greatest spiritual centers in the world.

In summary, the American doctor who plans a European trip should make the extra effort that is required to visit the town of Lourdes. He will be richly rewarded for the spiritual graces that he will receive and will long remember his participation in the Medical Bureau.

The Medical Bureau is entirely dependent on donations from its members and from their doctor friends. One of the purposes of the A.M.I.L. is to support the Medical Bureau. Financial support for the Medical Bureau may be mailed to Dr. Pelissier, Lourdes, France.

Executive Board
Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds
Annual Meeting - June 1957

The June meeting of the Executive Board of The Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds was held in New York City, June 4, 1957, at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. The following were present:

OFFICERS
M. F. Yeip, M.D. - President
N. F. Thiberge, M.D. - Honorary President
W. J. Egan, M.D. - First Vice-President
D. L. Sexton, M.D. - Second Vice-President
E. J. Murphy, M.D. - Third Vice-President
J. J. Graff, M.D. - Secretary
Rev. Michael P. Walsh, S.J. - Moderator

OFFICIAL GUILD DELEGATES
W. Molony, Sr., M.D. - Los Angeles Guild
W. F. Brennan, M.D. - Pittsburgh Guild
R. M. Eiben, M.D. - Cleveland Guild
N. M. MacNeill, M.D. - Philadelphia Guild
J. E. Holoubek, M.D. - Sheboygan, La. Guild
J. F. Flynn, M.D. - Pittsfield, Mass. Guild
J. F. Coletti, M.D. - D. J. Bradley, M.D.
J. Corcoran, M.D. - Rockville Centre Guild
Wm. F. Brennan, M.D. - Pittsburgh Guild
J. B. Muccigrosso, M.D. - A. J. Mannix, M.D. - Manchester Guild
A. M. Alexander, M.D. - Alexandria, La. Guild
A. P. Reding, M.D. - Sioux Falls, S. D. Guild
G. C. Wright, M.D. - Sacramento, Calif. Guild
W. F. Skaha, M.D. - St. Cloud, Minn. Guild

OTHERS
Rev. Ignatius W. Cox, S. J. - Fordham University
Rev. J. J. Flanagan, S. J. - Editor, The Linacre Quarterly
Mr. J. Ryan, F. R. C. S. - London, England
Rev. J. J. Flanagan, S. J. - Editor, The Linacre Quarterly
Mr. J. Ryan, F. R. C. S. - London, England
Miss Jean Read - Asst. Secy., Federation
Joseph J. Tolard, Jr. - Philadelphia, Past President
Rev. Michael P. Walsh, S. J. - Moderator

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. After roll call, the President requested the vote on the minutes of the Executive Board Meeting, December 8 and 9, 1956, in Cleveland, Ohio, as mailed by the Central...
PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Reporting on his term of office, the President made recommendations as follows:

1. To stimulate more Board representation, it was suggested that district councils be appointed to contact Guilds in their geographic areas and keep the groups together for consultation and information, representing the individual Guilds at Board sessions, if necessary.

2. A committee responsible for the arrangements and staffing of the Federation, exhibit used at conventions should be appointed.

3. The services of the officers of the Federation should be employed in larger capacities.

4. Recommend that a committee of the Federation be appointed to cooperate with medical missions.

5. Closer contact with the International Federation of Catholic Physicians recommended.

6. With growth of the organization, it was suggested that a committee be appointed to study revision of the Federation constitution.

The President thanked the central office for cooperation during the past two years and emphasized the value of the close relation of the Federation with the Catholic Hospital Association and the National Catholic Welfare Conference.

THE LINACRE QUARTERLY REPORT

It was reported that the mailing of the May issue of the journal, subscriptions total 8,540. Of the total number, 4,321 copies are sent to Guild members; the balance represents subscriptions from Priests, hospitals, libraries, nursing schools, and others.

The first Thomas Linacre Award was announced, Roy J.

Heffernan, M.D., F.A.C.S. and William A. Lynch, M.D. who collaborated to write the article "Is Therapeutic Abortion Scientifically Justified?" are the recipients of the Award. Presentations were made at the dinner meeting of the Silver Jubilee celebration of the Federation. This Award is to be made annually to the Catholic physician contributing an article to The Linacre Quarterly judged to be the most valuable in content to promote the interests of the journal in its efforts to express opinions in the light of Catholic teaching as applied to medical practice. A special Editorial Board to judge contributions will be appointed each year.

It was indicated that there is a continuing need for material to publish in the journal. Guild representatives were urged to encourage their members to write; the Thomas Linacre Award has been established to stimulate interest in writing. Membership in a Guild is not a requirement; all Catholic physicians are eligible.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

The membership report indicated sixty-one (61) Guilds affiliated with the Federation. Four were added since the December Board meeting: Rockville Centre, New York; Phoenix, Arizona; Louisville, Kentucky, and Alexandria, Louisiana (Oklahoma City, Okla.; Queens County, New York, and San Antonio, Texas became affiliated as this report was being compiled.)

AUGUST, 1957
NATIONAL MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Requests from prospective medical students for financial assistance reach the Federation central office. A Scholarship Fund was proposed to be sponsored by the Catholic Physicians' Guilds whereby volunteer contributions would be made monthly. Discussion of the subject brought forth the experience of some Guilds. In some areas partial scholarships were granted; others were offered on loan. Other recommendations were to offer the scholarships for the last two years of schooling.

It was thought advisable to have a mature consideration of the proposal, refer the matter to the Executive Committee, and discuss the subject at the Winter Board Meeting of the Federation. Delegates to the June meeting were asked to discuss the matter at their own Guild sessions.

MEDICAL SCHOOL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Medical school student groups inquire regarding the formation of organizations such as Guilds. Numerous queries reaching the central office are to be sent to the Guilds where the schools are located. Encouragement of these groups means prospective members. The Alfred E. Smith headquarters were made available for office use, free of charge. The response of Catholic hospitals and several drug concerns to help sponsor the occasion was most heartening. With an advance of $500.00 from the Federation treasury and $100.00 from each of the six Guilds in New York, the plan was launched.

The program for the evening was to consist of a reception and dinner. Presentation of scrolls and medallions was to be made to past presidents, priest-physicians, the Catholic Doctor of the Year, Thomas Linacre Award winners, and a chalice in honor of the Federation moderators. General Carlos P. Romulo, Philippine Ambassador to the United States and Delegate to the Security Council, United Nations, was invited to give the principal address. His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman was asked to preside on the dais. Dinner music was to be provided along with other musical entertainment. Guests from among the hierarchy, medical profession, education, etc., were to be especially honored on the dais.

With his committee, Dr. Mulvihill held weekly meetings for several months, executing details and reviewing progress. Many hours of time were devoted at personal sacrifice to make the celebration the magnificent success that it was. The following was voted to become a matter of record in the Minutes of this Executive Board meeting:

RESOLVED: That the gratitude of this Federation be expressed to Dr. Daniel A. Mulvihill and his committee, by incorporating into the Minutes of this Executive Board meeting:

Vote of thanks was accorded Dr. Melvin F. Yeip, retiring president, for efforts during his term of office. Dr. Egan acknowledged election as president and expressed intention to continue the aims of the Federation.

REPORTS OF GUILDS

St. Louis, Missouri

Guild meets officially twice a year; one meeting is a Communion Breakfast at the diocesan seminar. Newman Club members are invited on this occasion. Guild members hold a weekly clinic in mining district of the State, dispensing medical care. Participated in "White Mass" last year; six Catholic hospitals in city had Mass in their chapels for Guild members on their respective staffs.

Los Angeles, Calif.

Meetings are the hope of the future: widespread area of member-
ship makes it difficult to meet regularly.

DUBUQUE, IOWA

This Guild is one of diocesan planning; groups are organized in cities and small communities. Cana and pre-Cana Conferences are conducted by the members.

BRONX, NEW YORK

Some fifty pre-Cana Conferences were conducted during past year in which Guild members participated. Members make an annual retreat. Three meetings held yearly. The Guild's 25th anniversary and the "White Mass" were observed together last October. The Bronx Guild contributed much time and effort in planning for the Federation Silver Jubilee celebration.

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Four lectures are provided for the members yearly. The "White Mass" is an important occasion. Besides Guild members, ecclasiastic and civic dignitaries take part, as well as student nurses and interns from various hospitals. The Laetare medal is presented each year for outstanding contribution to medicine. Mother Anna Dengel, foundress of Medical Mission Sisters, received the Award in 1957. Suggestions for next year's recipient would be welcome. Medical school student groups are sponsored at Tufts, Harvard, and Boston University. The medical students' retreat is provided by the Guild. A grant for research is provided.

SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

The "White Mass" was the Guild's outstanding activity during the past year. Personal invitation was extended in each instance. The Guild provides medical care to the families of the members. The Alexandria, Louisiana Guild was organized through the efforts of this group.

PHILADELPHIA, PENNA.

Cana Conferences are sponsored. Medico-moral problems are discussed at meetings. Five medical students at the University of Pennsylvania are sponsored by the Guild.

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

The Guild continues to participate with the parochial school health committee that provides routine health examinations of first grade children. The group also assisted with the administration of poliomyelitis vaccine. It is planned to give a copy of Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Hospitals published by The Catholic Hospital Association to all members. In cooperation with the Catholic Students' Mission Crusade, the Guild has assisted in the collection of approximately 8,000 pounds of drug samples for shipment to the missions. The Guild assists with physical examinations of seminarians. Cana and pre-Cana Conferences in New Orleans receive the assistance of Guild members. A library committee functions to advise members of important books and pamphlets on medico-moral subjects. Members of the Guild are encouraged to make an annual retreat. The Guild holds quarterly meetings. The "White Mass" was observed last year; plans for this year are to enlarge the number to be invited to assist.

CLEVELAND, OHIO

The Guild was host to the Executive Board of the Federation at the December 1956 meeting. The "White Mass" was observed at the Cathedral.

PITTSBURGH, PENNA.

The Guild took part in a Day of Recollection. The "White Mass" was observed. Medical students received copies of THE LINACRE QUARTERLY last year.

WESTCHESTER, N. Y.

Open meetings to which the public is invited are conducted by the Guild in various parts of the county. Medico-moral issues and planned parenthood are discussed. It is felt that these "visiting" meetings are very enlightening to those who come.

NORWICH, CONNECTICUT

The "White Mass" with this Guild was also the year's outstanding observance. Half of the membership made the annual retreat.

ALEXANDRIA, LOUISIANA

Less than a year old, the Guild celebrated the "White Mass" in November with the Most Reverend Bishop Greco as celebrant.

ALEXANDRIA, LOUISIANA

Among the activities of the Guild is care of St. Patrick's Orphans Home in Sacramento.

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

The Guild held its annual Communion Breakfast in March of this year. The group assists medical students at Wayne University. The Medico-Moral Problems series of booklets by Father Gerald Kelly, S. J. is given to each graduate.
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

The Wilmington Guild has been commemorating the Feast of St. Luke since 1951. The "White Mass" has been continued each year. Pre-Cana Conferences for engaged couples are given; twelve have taken place since 1954. The members cooperate with the Catholic Nurses' Guild in giving physical examinations to first grade children of the parochial schools. Medico-moral-religious sessions have been held as part of regular meetings. A Cana Conference for doctors and their wives has been held. Marriage preparation courses for high school senior students have been given. Members of the Guild were active in support of revised adoption laws for the State of Delaware. Medical equipment and samples have been collected for missions in Ceylon and Africa. A detailed report of activities of the Wilmington Guild was sent to the Most Reverend Edmund J. FitzMaurice, D.D., Bishop of Wilmington.

ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS

The "White Mass" observance began the year's activities for the Rock Island Guild. A retreat for physicians in the diocese of Peoria was held. A dinner meeting was scheduled for April. Guild members are active in promoting interest in the formation of other groups throughout the diocese. Mr. John Ryan, F.R.C.S., of London, England, visitor at the Federation Board meeting, spoke at the Guild's one meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

A telegram of good wishes for recovery from illness was sent to Mr. M. R. Kneill, executive secretary of the Federation.

Father Ignatius W. Cox, S.J., first moderator of the Federation, was present at the meeting, speaking briefly on the development of the organization and complimenting the large representation of Guilds at the board session.

Mr. John Ryan, F.R.C.S., surgeon from London, England, spoke of conditions in the field of medicine there, discussing the nationalized system of medical care. There are about 900 members in the Catholic Physicians' Guild but only approximately 200 are active.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 p.m.

Roll Call

CATHOLIC PHYSICIANS' GUILDS

The listing below gives the name of the president and moderator of each Catholic Physicians' Guild affiliated with the Federation. These groups constitute the national organization.

ALABAMA

Mobile
President
C. D. Terry, M.D.
107 South Ann St.

Moderator
Rev. P. H. Yancey, S.J.

ARIZONA

Phoenix
Francis A. Mulligan, M.D.
5340 North 25th Place

Moderator
Rev. John P. Doran

CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles
Francis C. Werts, M.D.
1233 N. Vermont Avenue

Sacramento
Arthur F. Wallace, M.D.
Forum Building

Moderator
Rev. John C. Knott

COLORADO

Denver
Robert Woodruff, M.D.
Metropolitan Bldg. (408)

Moderator
Rev. Eugene Clarahan

CONNECTICUT

New Haven
David Conway, M.D.
1427 Chapel St.

Norwich
John W. Suplicki, M.D.
40 Slater Avenue

Stamford
James V. Halloran, M.D.
Mason Street
Greenwich, Conn.

Moderator
Rev. E. S. MacInnes

DELAWARE

Wilmington
John G. Graff, M.D.
1407 Woodlawn

Moderator
Rev. John C. Knott

ILLINOIS

Belleville
James Kiebeld, D.D.S.
7102 State Street
East St. Louis, Ill.

Moderator
Rev. Clement G. Schindler

August, 1957