

8-1-1952

## Report of Annual Meeting of The Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guild

Catholic Physicians' Guilds

Follow this and additional works at: <https://epublications.marquette.edu/lmq>

 Part of the [Ethics and Political Philosophy Commons](#), and the [Medicine and Health Sciences Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Catholic Physicians' Guilds (1952) "Report of Annual Meeting of The Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guild," *The Linacre Quarterly*: Vol. 19 : No. 3 , Article 7.

Available at: <https://epublications.marquette.edu/lmq/vol19/iss3/7>

## Report of Annual Meeting of The Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds (1952)

On June 11 in Chicago, The Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guild held its annual business meeting and luncheon for Catholic physicians.

### Executive Board Meeting

The annual Executive Board meeting was called to order at 10:00 a. m. in the Conrad Hilton Hotel, Chicago by the President, Wm. P. Chester, M.D. Official delegates present were:

DR. J. J. TOLAND, JR., First Vice-Pres.  
DR. MELVIN F. YEIP, Second Vice-Pres.  
DR. WM. J. EGAN, Third Vice-Pres.  
DR. A. J. OFFERMAN, Secretary  
RT. REV. MSGR. D. A. MCGOWAN, Moderator  
DR. WM. J. EGAN, Boston Guild  
DR. MARCELLE BERNARD, Bronx Guild  
DR. ROBT. STRIEGEL, Buffalo Guild  
DR. JAMES KENNARY, Detroit Guild  
DR. J. F. SELISKAR, Cleveland Guild  
DR. N. THIBERGE, New Orleans Guild  
DR. J. G. GROSS, Omaha Guild  
DR. GORONWY BROUN, St. Louis Guild  
DR. W. E. DONAHOE, Sioux Falls Guild  
DR. H. T. MCGUIRE, Wilmington Guild  
DR. JOHN J. GRAFF, Wilmington Guild

Also present at this meeting were Dr. Martin Hoffman, Detroit; Dr. Frank B. McGlone, Denver; Rev. John J. Flanagan, S.J., Editor of *The Linacre Quarterly*, Mr. M. R. Kneiff, Executive Secretary of the Federation, and Jean Read.

### The Reading of the Minutes of the Meeting of November 24, 1951

On motion made by Dr. Offerman, seconded by Dr. Striegel, it was unanimously moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Board.

### Membership Report

Father John J. Flanagan reported that during the current year, three new guilds had affiliated. These include: Sioux Falls, South Dakota; Sioux City, Iowa; and Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

In addition, Father Flanagan reported that the following affiliated guilds are in good standing:

Boston	Detroit	Philadelphia
Bronx	Minneapolis	Sacramento
Brooklyn	Wilmington	St. Louis
Buffalo	New Orleans	New Bedford
Cleveland	Omaha	

Affiliations pending at this time include St. Cloud, Minnesota; Fall River, Massachusetts and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

In addition, it was stated that a few guilds in operation are not affiliated with the Federation. These include Denver, Los Angeles, and Dayton, Ohio.

Considerable discussion took place concerning additional groups which might be organized into formal guilds. Mention was made of Niagara Falls, Chautauqua, New York, a second Philadelphia group, and another in South Carolina.

It was recommended that the Officers of the Federation give some thought to the development of a definite program for the promotion of interest in the organization of additional guilds. The members of the Executive Board pledged themselves to assist in every way possible.

### The Linacre Quarterly

The agenda for this meeting included data concerning the present circulation of *The Linacre Quarterly*, the official journal of the Federation. This report indicated that in addition to slightly more than 2500 physicians who now receive this journal, there are approximately 1700 other subscribers including hospitals, members of the clergy, libraries, and others. The total circulation as of May 31, 1952 was 4275.

Some discussion took place concerning additional groups to be contacted for wider circulation of the journal.

### The Financial Report 1951-52

M. R. Kneiff, the Executive Secretary, presented the Financial Report which appears as Appendix A to these minutes.

This report is virtually self-explanatory and fortunately reflects a surplus of approximately \$1012.50 on December 13, 1951.

This financial report was unanimously accepted and approved.

Some discussion took place concerning the inclusion of advertising in the quarterly issues of *Linacre*. Father Flanagan reported that he planned to inaugurate this program with the 1953 volume.

### The Linacre Report—The Editor's Report

Father Flanagan, the Editor, expressed his gratitude and pleasure over the help of the Editorial Committee for *Linacre Quarterly*. He voiced the hope that with the assistance of this group a better editorial program might be developed. The recommendations of various groups were reported: that articles might be presented dealing with the spiritual life of the physician; others dealing with the general proposition of integration of the spiritual with the professional activities of the physician; psychiatric considerations; and another reported the very successful symposium on euthanasia conducted by their group. The Editor discussed the need for positive evidence concerning the obstetrical practices in our Catholic hospitals. He expressed the hope that sometime within the next year it would be possible to develop such a study.

In the course of this discussion, reference was made to the contribution of Father Gerald Kelly, S.J. to *The Linacre Quarterly* and to the Federa-

tion. The Executive Board unanimously extended a vote of thanks to Father Kelly for his assistance in this very important aspect of medical practice.

Further discussion took place concerning the desirability of publishing a complete issue of the *Quarterly* devoted to a single general subject. The general opinion of the members of the Board seem to favor the presentation on a serial basis of longer contributions. It was suggested, however, that every effort be made to maintain the department which chronicles guild activities. It was recommended that wherever possible, the reports of guild programs and activities be forwarded to the Central Office for publication in the journal.

#### Membership Proposal—Junior Guilds (Medical Students)

Father Flanagan reported the receipt of requests concerning the organization of junior guilds composed of medical students. This topic elicited extensive discussion. The points touched upon were the following:

1. Where there is a regularly organized guild of physicians, such a group should sponsor the medical students group both financially and educationally.
2. The existence of Newman Clubs including in some cases medical students can be a point of contact.
3. The suggestion of organizing medical student clubs in all medical schools under the sponsorship of an existing guild or as independent groups.

It was pointed out that to recognize a junior or associate guild composed of medical students who have not yet completed their medical education would require a change in the constitution of the Federation. Theoretically, sponsorship by an existing guild would be far more desirable.

On motion by Dr. Egan, seconded by Dr. Offerman, it was unanimously voted to appoint a special committee for the purpose of developing a plan for the organization of medical clubs in medical schools.

On motion by Dr. Toland and seconded by Dr. Gross, it was further moved and unanimously voted that the Officers of the Federation recommend to the Most Reverend members of the Hierarchy the proposal that medical clubs be organized in medical colleges or in cities where there are medical colleges as a basis for the future development of guilds of Catholic physicians.

#### Financing of Catholic Medical Schools

Dr. Gross of the Omaha Catholic Physicians' Guild presented a statement relating to this topic, outlining the need for the consideration of the welfare of Catholic medical schools.

Dr. Gross pointed out the budgetary obligations of those who assume responsibility for the conduct of the five Catholic medical schools in the United States. He stated that while the tuition was seemingly high, \$800 per year, the cost per year for the education of a medical student approximated \$2500. Thus, a deficit of approximately \$1700 per student must be met from the general treasury of the universities sponsoring such medical schools. He pointed out further that it would be necessary for some agency

outside of the universities which conduct these medical schools to give financial aid, if the five Catholic medical schools were to continue. He pointed out that he had consulted with Archbishop Bergan of Omaha and had his approval for proposing to this group the consideration of the problem.

The Executive Board expressed interest in this report and gave some time to a discussion of ways and means of helping Catholic medical schools. Father Flanagan was asked to obtain all data relevant to this subject from each of the five medical schools.

#### International Congress of Catholic Physicians

This matter, discussed at the November Mid-Winter Board meeting, was again reviewed in the light that it was now impossible for the Boston Guild to assume the responsibility of inviting the International Congress of Catholic Physicians to hold its 1953 meeting in Boston.

On motion directly made and seconded, this report was received and filed and the Moderator, Father McGowan, was asked to transmit the regrets of the Federation that it was impossible at this time to extend an invitation to the International Congress of Catholic Physicians to meet in the United States.

#### General Program of the Federation—1952-53

The Moderator recommended that the Executive Board consider the proposition of inaugurating the national observance of the feast of St. Luke by all of the guilds of Catholic physicians. In making this proposal, Father McGowan stated that he realized some of the guilds had already developed special programs on various dates and may not now be able to cooperate in such a program. He expressed the hope, however, that this might be considered for general adoption some time in the future. He hoped that those guilds which could do so, would cooperate by inaugurating this practice in 1952—on October 18, the feast of St. Luke, or on a date as close to this as possible.

On motion made by Dr. Offerman and seconded by Dr. Striegel, the Executive Board unanimously recommended that all affiliated guilds consider the proposal for a national observance of the feast of St. Luke, the patron of physicians.

#### The Mid-Winter Meeting

It was agreed that the Mid-Winter Meeting of the Executive Board take place in St. Louis before or after the meeting of the Clinical Session of the American Medical Association scheduled to take place this year in Denver in early December. The Executive Board requested that the dates be worked out and submitted to the Board for its consideration and final adoption. In the event that this proposal might not develop, it was suggested that considerations be given to a Board meeting sometime in January 1953.

#### Incorporation of the Federation

Father McGowan indicated that he hoped to give more definite information on this point at the Mid-Winter Board Meeting.

### International Federation of Physicians' Guilds

Father McGowan reported the receipt of a proposal from the International Federation that the Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds of the United States affiliate with the International Federation. Such an affiliation would entail a fee of approximately seven cents per capita.

The Executive Board recommended that this matter be scheduled for consideration at the Mid-Winter meeting.

### Guild of Catholic Psychiatrists

Dr. Martin Hoffman of Detroit, recently elected President of the newly formed Guild of Catholic Psychiatrists—attending the Executive Board meeting as a guest, outlined the following:

1. That there are estimated to be 44,000 Catholic physicians in the United States.
2. 140 attended the recent organization meeting of the Guild of Catholic Psychiatrists held at Atlantic City.
3. There are 254 Catholic psychiatrists in the United States on the basis of reports from chancery offices.
4. Approximately 72 Catholic psychiatrists have applied for membership in the new guild.

Dr. Hoffman asked for cooperation of the Board members by sending to him at his address, The David Whitney Building, Detroit, Michigan, the names and addresses of any Catholic psychiatrists known to them. He thanked the Board for courtesy extended to him and for the cooperation which he hoped to receive from them.

### Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 P. M.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Luncheon Meeting

The annual luncheon for Catholic physicians sponsored by The Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds followed at 12:30 P. M.

Program speakers were Dr. Roy J. Heffernan of Brookline, Massachusetts who pursued further his subject discussed at some length in the February issue of *The Linacre Quarterly* "Is Therapeutic Abortion Scientifically Justified?" and Reverend Mother Anna Dengel, Mother General of the Medical Mission Sisters, who described briefly but effectively medical missionary activity in India.

Attending this luncheon and meeting were several priests and physicians from 22 states—about 80 were present.

## APPENDIX A FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC PHYSICIANS' GUILDS Financial Statement

January 1, 1951—December 31, 1951

Cash Balance January 1, 1951.....\$ 569.50

### Cash Receipts

#### Subscriptions to THE LINACRE QUARTERLY

Hospitals.....	\$ 835.65	
Doctors.....	1,346.80	
Priests.....	546.20	
Others.....	511.40	\$3,240.05

#### Membership Fees (Including Other

#### Group Subscriptions)

Boston.....	\$ 484.50	
Bronx.....	156.00	
Brooklyn.....	364.50	
Buffalo.....	187.50	
Calgary, Alberta.....	6.00	
Cleveland.....	208.00	
Dayton.....	58.50	
Detroit.....	6.00	
Los Angeles.....	405.00	
Milwaukee.....	38.00	
Minneapolis.....	137.00	
New Bedford.....	55.50	
New Orleans.....	203.00*	
Omaha.....	87.00	
Philadelphia.....	124.50	
Sacramento.....	9.00	
St. Louis.....	331.50	
Sioux City.....	39.00	
Wilmington.....	18.00	2,918.50

#### Affiliation Fees

Boston.....	\$ 25.00	
Bronx.....	25.00	
Detroit.....	25.00	
Minneapolis.....	25.00	
New Bedford.....	25.00	
New Orleans.....	25.00	
Omaha.....	25.00	
Philadelphia.....	25.00	
Sioux City.....	25.00	
St. Louis.....	25.00	250.00

Miscellaneous Income (Reprints, single copies  
of THE LINACRE QUARTERLY, etc.)..... 165.27

Total Income..... 6,573.82

\$7,143.32

\*Includes \$71.00 applicable to 1950 membership fees.

Balance Forward.....\$7,143.32

## Disbursements

LINACRE QUARTERLY—Printing	\$1,525.15	
LINACRE QUARTERLY—Editorial	200.00	
Salaries	1,500.00	
Promotional Activity	265.25	
Publicity	19.00	
Membership Certificates	2.18	
Postage	235.36	
Stationery and Supplies	102.70	
Telephone and Telegraph	10.00	
Atlantic City Meeting	266.75	
Discount and Exchange	4.42	\$4,130.81
a/c Payable Catholic Hospital Association	2,000.00	6,130.81
Cash balance Mercantile Trust Co., St. Louis, Missouri—December 31, 1951		\$1,012.81
Liability—Catholic Hospital Association		\$3,645.9