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A Message from the President ...

Joseph J. Toland

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INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF CATHOLIC PHYSICIANS—1954

Dr. Raymond Cross, Director of Public Relations for the International Congress of Catholic Doctors, who was in New York for the American Medical Association Convention, was guest of the Executive Board, and announced that the 6th Congress will convene in Dublin, July 13-17, 1954. Dr. Cross extended a warm invitation to all Catholic doctors to attend the Congress. It is sponsored by the Dublin chapter of the Irish Guild of St. Luke, SS. Cosmas and Damian. All inquiries should be made to the Secretary: The Irish Guild of St. Luke, SS. Cosmas and Damian, "Verita House," 7 Lower Abbey St., Dublin, Ireland.

THE ANNUAL LUNCHEON OF CATHOLIC PHYSICIANS

The Executive Board Meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon to be followed by the Luncheon to which all Catholic doctors attending the A. M. A. were invited. The guests were addressed by His Eminence Francis Cardina Spellman, Archbishop of New York.

Others addressing the group were Dr. Joseph B. Doyle, Boston, Mass. who invited the group to the meeting of the American Society for the Study of Sterility in New Orleans, Louisiana in 1954. On request, Reverend Ignatius Cox, S. J., through whose efforts the Federation was organized spoke briefly on the future of the organization and of his hopes for many more Guilds.

Dr. Cross invited those assembled to visit Ireland for the International Congress in July 1954.

Monsignor McGowan set forth the purpose of the Federation and encouraged those present to assist with the formation of local Guilds to strengthen the national organization.

Representatives from 25 States, Canada, Argentina and Ireland were in the gathering.

A Message from the President...

THE DUTIES of the President of the Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds have been entrusted to me by your Executive Committee for the next two years. This entails considerable responsibility, but it will be a most successful term of office if the members' Guilds will do what they can to further the principles of Catholic Action through the medical profession.

Ideal Catholic Action is for the Catholic doctor to see that new members of the profession, many of them graduates of non-Catholic schools, are guided in the field of Catholic medicine.

Our patients must be instructed that the impact of planned parenthood, birth control and contraception may be counteracted by such practical methods as the Cana movement.

Our hospitals must be staffed by doctors who are practical moralists in medicine and the Code of Ethics of Catholic hospitals must be adhered to by the staff members. The first problem presents no difficulty due to our oath of Escalus.

Our responsibility is to see that all Catholic physicians are enrolled in Guilds. Where Guilds do not exist, we should make every attempt to organize them. Our goal can only be reached by a large and far-flung membership... A Guild in every diocese.

As physicians our first duty is to God, our second duty is to the sick, and our third is the salvation of our own immortal souls. All three are easily accomplished by the doctor who practices moral medicine. We must have a knowledge of Catholic principles to effect our dual purpose of physician and teacher. Let us use this knowledge to serve God and teach the principles He has given us through His Holy Church. Ours is a real responsibility and we should be happy to honor it.

I sincerely hope that as your President I will have your assistance in fulfilling the responsibility that is ours.

JOSEPH J. TOLAND, JR.
President
The Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds