Guild Notes

Catholic Physicians' Guild
Icus deplores any controversy which might bring about discord of mind or heart. For that reason he has written these lines, after much delay and with much reluctance. Let truth, justice, and charity prevail. Ethicus knows no better way of ending this article than by quoting the closing lines of his previous remarks: "The morally good use of the safe period can only be perceived in its proper perspective when the complete doctrine of marriage is properly understood and appreciated. All ought to understand that if fecundity is not the unique and necessary end of every individual marriage, it multiplies, especially when it can be abundant, benefits in the family. Only fruitful marriage answers completely to the desires of nature. The child and children are the benediction of the fireside from every viewpoint, biological, psychological, social, moral and religious."

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GUILD NOTES

BOSTON GUILD.—The annual meeting of the Guild of Saint Luke was held at the University Club on June 14, 1933. There were about sixty members present, including our Reverend Chaplain Monsignor Splaine. The regular order of business was followed, which included election of officers for the year 1933-1934. The principal articles of business other than the election, which brought on serious discussion, were the question of accepting the constitution of the Federated Catholic Physicians’ Guild and the question of admitting female doctors to our local Guild. Both of these motions were passed favorably. The election of officers resulted in the following: President—William F. Coughlin, M.D.; Vice-President—Richard W. Sheehy, M.D.; Secretary-Treasurer—Edward L. Kickham, M.D.; Councilors—William T. Haley, M.D., Edward J. O’Brien, M.D., Fred P. Murphy, M.D., John F. Casey, M.D., and John D. Bennett, M.D.

The new President was escorted to the chair by a committee appointed by the retiring President and briefly addressed the meeting, pledging his earnest efforts to carrying on the work of the Guild and promising some innovations for the coming year in regard to the meetings and also advocating a drive for new members, especially the young men of the district who are eligible.
The congratulations of the Guild were extended to our Reverend Chaplain upon his being honored on that same day by his Alma Mater, Boston College, with the degree of Doctor of Laws. The speaker of the meeting was our fellow member, Dr. Thomas J. O’Brion, Chairman of the Committee on State and National Legislation of the Massachusetts Medical Society and the representative of the Society at the State House. He gave a most interesting talk, in a very informal manner, on matters of interest to the profession, and particularly emphasized the necessity of our taking an active interest in the various bills presented to the Legislature each year. As he so well proved to us, the proponents of these measures are there en masse with their friends and have also contacted the various members of their districts in the Legislature, while we are content to sit back and allow the other fellow to do our talking, without any attempt on our part to show we are even remotely interested. He mentioned the number of freak bills presented each year having to do either directly or indirectly with the medical profession or hospitals, many of which to us seemed ridiculous, but they were shown to be serious when he reported the narrow margins by which many of them were defeated. The prepayment hospital plans were discussed in a general way by Dr. O’Brion and many a morsel of food for thought was dropped both in his explanation of the plans as he understood them and in the discussion period which followed his address. A collation was served and a social hour followed.

Bronx Guild.—The annual meeting of the Bronx Catholic Physicians’ Guild took place at Fordham University. The sermon was by the Reverend Ignatius Cox. Following mass, breakfast was served in the college dining-room.

The officers were renominated and elected for the following year.

The motion was made and seconded that the Secretary send a set of resolutions to the family of our deceased member, Dr. Kennard.

Dr. Cunniffe urged the members of the Guild to work and vote for Dr. James McGrath for the office of Censor in the Bronx County Medical Society.

The Reverend Father Bull of Fordham University gave a very interesting lecture on the “Catholic Physician” and “The Social Trend of Modern Culture.”

Dr. Cunniffe and Dr. Walsh discussed Father Bull’s paper.

Dr. Dillon, President of the Manhattan Guild, spoke on the activities of the Manhattan Guild. The meeting was adjourned.
The Reverend Ignatius Cox will start a series of lectures on Catholic Hour, beginning Sunday, October 8th, at 6 p.m. E.S.T. over Station WEAF. The general theme of these broadcasts will centre on God, Man, and Redemption.

Attention is drawn to an interesting article by Father Cox in the August Scientific American.

MANHATTAN GUILD—The next meeting of the Catholic Physicians’ Guild of Manhattan will be held on Wednesday evening, November 15th. Dr. Alexander Fraser will give an address on “The Biologic Basis of Eugenics and its Common Fallacies.”

Dr. Fraser is Professor of Pathology in the University Bellevue Hospital Medical College, also Pathologist to St. Vincent’s Hospital and to New York Foundling Hospital. The place of the meeting will be decided upon later. The Guild hopes to secure a prominent clergyman to discuss the moral points involved in the practice of eugenic theories.

BROOKLYN GUILD—The Catholic Physicians’ Guild, Brooklyn Chapter, hopes to present to its members and their Catholic and non-Catholic medical friends, a series of timely lectures on various phases of Pastoral Medicine.

These talks are to be given throughout the coming Fall, Winter, and Spring at dates to be announced later.

The Guild will open its Fall Lecture Series with an address by Rev. Wm. G. Ryan of Brooklyn, N. Y. Father Ryan has made a thorough study of the medical and moral phases of the somewhat recent “Latz Rhythm Theory” and will present his views to the members at the next meeting of the Guild, to be announced shortly.

BOOK REVIEWS

THE RHYTHM. By Leo J. Latz, A.B., M.D., LL.D. Third revised edition. Published by the Latz Foundation, Chicago, Ill.

This work, published with ecclesiastical approbation, has, in eight months, gone to the thirty-fifth thousandth copy—a remarkable record. It presents the physiological, practical and ethical aspects of the work of Ogino and Knaus regarding the periods when conception is impossible and when possible. It is written in simple style, easy of understanding by the non-medical person, its context being presented under the captions of questions and answers. This makes for quick reading, by means of which any matter of doubt in the subject is