Along Highway and Byway

Catholic Physicians' Guild

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Recently we came across an article entitled "Catholic Soldiers Can Be Missionaries by Example," and we feel that our former Secretary of the Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds, Dr. Francis L. Denzer, is a shining example of that statement. For the past nineteen months, he has been a transport surgeon, traveling to all corners of the earth, except Australia, which he had not yet touched when we heard from him. Wherever he goes he makes inquiries whether a Catholic Physicians' Guild is functioning there; and if not, he explains the value of such an organization. Though he has seen a great part of the world since he joined the Service, America still ranks first with him. He writes: "The various Catholic laymen's organizations in America though not essential to the existence of the Church, yet personify the superabundant potent holiness of its members in America put into action. We might say that an omniscient and just God is blessing our America in many ways for her universal charity toward all, even as the Good Samaritan of old, or for her century-old role of harbouring the harbourless, the persecuted and the destitute. True, we could stand improvement and housecleaning ourselves, but, as humans or nations go, America certainly has a record of charity which is second to none."

According to the daily press, some of the leaders of the Euthanasia Society proposed the passing of a bill granting permission to doctors to painlessly kill returning soldiers and sailors who have been wounded so badly that they are so-called "hopeless cases." They graciously added that, of course, the consent of these poor unfortunates would first have to be obtained! Fortunately, the idea was squashed before it even had time to spread very much, but it shows to what length people will go, when their reasoning is based on a false premise, and how watchful we, who carry the torch of true faith, must be.