Guild Notes

Catholic Physicians' Guild

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BROOKLYN GUILD — The Catholic Physicians' Guild of the Diocese of Brooklyn held its annual retreat at Mt. Manresa, Staten Island, from May 7th to May 9th, with the Rev. Thomas B. Chetwood, S.J., as retreat master. Considering the number of doctors in service and the extra burdens placed on those in civilian practice, the fact that forty-seven physicians attended was very encouraging.

During the retreat the annual meeting of the Guild was held and the following officers elected for the coming year: President, Lewis J. Smith, M.D.; Vice-President, John F. Raycroft, M.D.; President-Elect, Frank E. Mallon, M.D.; Secretary-Treasurer, John G. McNamara, M.D.; Associate Secretary-Treasurer, Frank P. Melomo, M.D.

“Round-Robin” letters were sent to two members who entered military service while in office, Dr. John B. D’Albora, former president and Dr. John J. Flynn, former treasurer.

The attention of the Guild was called to the marked increase in juvenile delinquency and the meeting decided that Catholic doctors should help in every way to combat this menace, and that perhaps best results could be obtained by co-operation with, and working through, the Priests Social Action Committee of the Diocese of Brooklyn.

In spite of the large number of doctors on the mailing list now in service, which indicated a probable falling off in attendance, the interest, attention and enthusiasm of those present gave rise to the conviction that the Guild will continue to be a very active organization throughout the duration of the war.

BELLEVILLE GUILD — A meeting of the Guild was held at St. Henry’s Preparatory Seminary on Sunday morning, May 2nd. The meeting was preceded by Holy Mass which was celebrated in the Seminary Chapel. All members were asked to offer their Holy Communions at this Mass for those members who are in the service of the country, and also for victory and a just and lasting peace.

Breakfast was served in the new De Mazenod Hall, followed by a short business meeting.

At the executive meeting, it was decided to hold only one meeting a year for the duration, as so many members are in service, and the others greatly overworked. The present staff of Guild officers will, with the approval of the next meeting, be held over for another year.

We give a few excerpts from a letter of February 14th, from our good friend Dr. Sondag, who is very much engaged as Assistant Director of the Division of VD Control of the Florida State Board of Health. We had asked
him to speak at this meeting and he states: "Nothing would please me more than to be present with my friends for that meeting and speak a few words about the work we are doing down here in Florida. . . . This State ceases to be a vacation land for the duration. . . . All the attractions have closed . . . and we now have more military camps than any other state in the Union."

Capt. Chas. Baumann, who had a six-weeks' course in chest surgery at Washington University under army orders, has been transferred to the Pacific Northwest, being stationed at 87th Station Hospital, Staging Area, Fort Lewis, Washington.

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Under the rules laid down by the American Academy of Pediatrics, their educational-to-the-public film, "When Bobby Goes to School," may be exhibited to the public by any licensed physician in the United States.

All that is required is that he obtain the endorsement by any officer of his county medical society. Endorsement blanks for this purpose may be obtained on application to the distributor, Mead Johnson & Company, Evansville, Indiana.

Such endorsement, however, is not required for showings by licensed physicians to medical groups for the purpose of familiarizing them with the message of the film in advance of public showings in the community.

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