July 1940

Report of the Convention: Federation of the Catholic Physicians' Guilds, New York, June 12, 1940

Catholic Physicians' Guild

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of Conduct given to the Jews on Mt. Sinai and to Christians through Christ, elevated by His teaching on the mount. That is the dream and vision of those who are working for the establishment and the federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds throughout the United States. Let us make this dream come true.

REPORT OF THE CONVENTION
FEDERATION OF THE CATHOLIC PHYSICIANS' GUILDS
New York, June 12, 1940

The meeting of the Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds convened in the Catholic Club, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York City, Wednesday morning, June 12, 1940, at eleven o'clock. Dr. Thomas M. Brennan, Brooklyn, New York, President of the Federation, presiding.

PRESIDENT BRENNAN: Father Cox, will you open the meeting?

REVEREND IGNATIUS W. COX: Direct, O Lord, all our actions by Thy Holy inspirations and carry them on by Thy gracious assistance so that every prayer and action of ours may begin from Thee, and through Thee be happily ended. Amen!

PRESIDENT BRENNAN: Since the last session of the Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds we have sustained a serious loss in the death of the President who was elected at that meeting, Dr. Joseph A. Dillon. He gave to this organization everything that was in his power, of his ability, of his time and his material aid.

I ask at this time that the members rise for a short space to show respect to his memory.

The membership arose, and prayers were offered by His Excellency, Archbishop Spellman.

PRESIDENT BRENNAN: Your Excellency, Very Reverend Monsignori, Reverend Clergy, Members of the Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds: At this time we will depart a little from the usual order of business. His Excellency, the Archbishop, has favored us by coming here today. He has been most generous and most gracious toward us. He did not hesitate a moment when we called upon him and asked if we might have Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral. He said anything the doctors wanted, he was willing and anxious to do. He has done that very thing.

He graciously said that Mass for us this morning. He is here now to greet us and to give us his approval, his blessing and his encouragement.

I take great pleasure in presenting to you at this time, His Excellency, Archbishop Spellman, of New York.

The membership arose. (Applause.)

HIS EXCELLENCY, ARCHBISHOP FRANCIS J. SPELLMAN: Dr. Brennan and Members of the Catholic
Physicians' Guilds: Last night, you heard Governor Lehman welcome you to New York State, and you heard Mayor LaGuardia welcome you to New York City; so this morning I can welcome you to Catholic New York, because a great proportion of New York is Catholic.

I can also say that you are welcome in the Catholic hospitals, Catholic homes, Catholic institutions in this Archdiocese. I can also say, "Come at any time" and I know that you will find everything in order.

We are very proud of our achievements in New York City in the care which we provide for our sick and the opportunities which we provide for our doctors and nurses, the facilities for their training and the opportunities that they have for service to the sick.

We have in immediate prospect the expansion of several of our hospitals at a total cost of three million dollars. We hope within a year to expand our hospital facilities with the expenditure of this amount of money.

We can say that there is the closest harmony existing between the physicians, the hospital authorities, the Diocesan authorities, the state and city authorities. We are all cooperating in a most friendly, understanding manner for the purpose of caring for our sick.

As an example, in one department—the Child Welfare Department—we employ two full time psychiatrists. We are doing what we can all along the line in every department. Every care is given individually for the welfare of those committed to our care and those for whom we are responsible.

Of course, I can mention all of these things because, as you know, I am new in the City and I simply enter into a niche, or act as one cog in a great big wheel which is already moving progressively for the welfare of humanity through the instrumentality of the Catholic Church.

Of course, it is impossible to attend a meeting of this kind without commenting on the reflections that we all have on the world situation. We realize how deplorable it is to consider that you, and other doctors throughout our country and throughout the world, have given time and talents to the study of medicine to preserve human life, yet, despite the progress that we have made, and despite the tremendous gains that have been achieved in prolonging life and lessening suffering, we are unable to keep pace with the forces that would destroy and are destroying life.

Our only hope is that miraculously God will give to the leaders of all countries the good will to follow the light, so that mankind may stop its back-spin in progress toward barbarism and once more go forward progressively in a humanitarian, in a human instinct, in a Christian instinct, toward the goal of happiness that God wishes for all mankind.
All that is needed, all that ever was needed, was good will. It is that good will for which we pray for the leaders of peoples so that doctors and others of good will may continue to make progress toward making this world a better and a happier place in which to live.

I hope the results of your meeting will be satisfactory, that you will enjoy your stay in New York City. I will be happy in any way that is suggested to contribute to your happiness, your welfare and your visit here. I do not know what I can do, but I would like to make it a real offer. So, if there is any place to which I can provide transportation, I will be very glad to help out. God bless you!

The membership arose. (Applause.)

President Brennan: We want to express our appreciation for your great kindness and to assure you of our support and our prayers.

At this point Archbishop Spellman retired from the room. (Applause.)

President Brennan: Father Cox, Officers, Ladies and Gentlemen, Members of the Guild: As President of this Federation, I first want to welcome you to this convention held in association with the American Medical Association and to give you a cordial greeting on this occasion.

I am very thankful for and deeply indebted to you for the privilege of being your presiding officer at this time. The Executive Committee a year ago, on the death of Dr. Dillon, asked that I continue his term of office, which I have been glad to do. With the help and the support of the officers about me, and with the committees we have been able to carry on.

I can report progress and can report growth of the movement of the Catholic Physicians’ Guilds throughout this country. They are growing in numbers and their activities are extending.

When the Brooklyn Guild was formed, it was decided that the outstanding and first activity of the Guild would be an annual retreat. The Reverend Father Gerald Tracy, of the Society of Jesus, who had succeeded Father Shealy at Manresa, conducted the first retreat. Thus began an annual series of retreats which has continued in unbroken succession for close to 15 years. We, in Brooklyn, believe that the development and progress of our Guild has been, in large part, due to this practice. Certainly, without the retreat or some special spiritual activity Guild objectives will not be so readily, or so completely, achieved.

Now, in regard to Guild aims and purposes. So frequently people will say, “Why a Catholic Physicians’ Guild? Why not a Baptist Physicians’ Guild?” Or, “Why just a Doctors’ Guild, why not a Catholic Bakers’ Guild?” Well, I say, ”Why not,” if it is of unusual value?

The purpose of the Catholic
Physicians’ Guild is to constitute a Brotherhood of all members of the medical profession, to provide mutual assistance in their religious and professional life and to facilitate cooperation between them and members of cognate branches and the clergy and others who may be interested in the study and the discussion of medical and religious questions and those touching on the science of duty, ethics and morals; to stress the relations of medical theory and practice to Catholic theology and philosophy and to uphold the principles of the Catholic Faith and morality against an unchristian and unscientific materialism; to render such assistance to Catholic medical institutions and missions as may be practicable and, in general, to promote among Catholic members of the profession such solidarity as may be advantageous to both their religion and their profession.

The Holy Father has sent us his blessing and approval. He has encouraged international conferences. At least three have been held, one in Brussels, one in Vienna, and the last, in 1937, at Rome. It was his thought that this Secretariat should be carried on every year.

In our own country the ecclesiastical authorities have been very helpful, very cordial, and very generous in their support—individual Bishops, individual dioceses also. This year the matter was taken up at the Conference of Bishops and the matter was reported and put in the hands of His Excellency Archbishop Rummel, of New Orleans, who is very anxious to cooperate with us in every way in the development of Guilds throughout the country.

What have we done to meet the requirements of our organization? The Federation has been formed because in that way, by pooling experience, by arranging for cooperation and correlation between the various Guilds throughout the country, we can extend the movement and the influence of the movement and encourage development of new Guilds throughout the country.

The most important activity to accomplish this, is the publication of the official organ, The LINACRE QUARTERLY. Without the LINACRE there can be no Federation. We must continue the LINACRE. We must extend its usefulness, and we must see to it that it has a wide circulation. Efforts are being made along those lines.

Doctor Dillon took over our official organ when it looked as if it were impossible to carry it on, and it is through his efforts that the LINACRE QUARTERLY is still a valuable publication, widely accepted and widely quoted. At the present time, Dr. James J. Walsh is acting as editor-in-chief of the LINACRE.

As far as our meetings are concerned—our bi-annual meetings—it was felt that we would do best by having the meeting at the time of the American Medical Association because at that time we have access to a great many
physicians who go to the meeting of the American Medical Association.

Therefore, this year it was planned to do exactly as has been reported in our program. I need not tell you that up to the moment the result has been very satisfactory and the plan has been very successful. We did meet with the American Hospital Association. This year, Father Schwitalla, the President of the American Catholic Hospital Association, wished to have us cooperate with him in his anniversary convention at St. Louis, which takes place next week. We feel that we should take part in his convention. I believe that this can best be done through the Guild in the locality of the convention city selected by the Catholic Hospital Association. Therefore, I feel we must support its efforts along those lines. I think it will lead to mutual advantage.

There is little else that I can report at this time. With your encouragement and support, the Federation will continue to carry on the aims and purposes which we have already outlined. I am sure with the approval of the Hierarchy and the prayers of those interested that we will succeed in our efforts. (Applause.)

Now, to sum up the situation, might I call on our National Moderator, Father Ignatius W. Cox. (Applause.)

Father Cox: I am going to deliver myself of a few collected thoughts that are in my pocket, and that is the only place they are at the present moment.

I was appointed a sole member of the committee to try to think out what should be the main objective that we should work at in this meeting in New York. In thinking it over it seemed to me that for your consideration here there are certain things tending toward the progress of the Guild idea and the Federation idea that are absolutely necessary. At this meeting there should be taken under consideration what means we can take to develop Guilds in every city of any size in the country.

We know, of course, that there are certain difficulties to face. For instance, up in the western part of New York State there is only one Catholic doctor in the whole City of Ogdensburg. It is obvious that one doctor does not constitute a Guild. There are larger places where four or five might constitute a Guild.

The first thought is the multiplication of individual Guilds. The Guild is democratic and the Guild works for the community in which it is located.

After that, there is the joining of these Guilds into this larger Federation wherein we shall be a national voice. I am going to try at the banquet tonight to give you the ideology, the idea back of the Federation. It is not easy. There are a lot of false reasons given as to why Catholics should not have Guilds, and that the sole purpose of these Guilds seems to be “to fight birth control and all that
sort of thing,” all of which is false and could be used as malicious propaganda. That is not back of it at all. There is something very positive and something greater that we are looking at and I shall speak about it tonight.

In order to gain these two ideals, the multiplication of Guilds and the Federation of these Guilds, I think that we ought to devise means for the development of the LINACRE QUARTERLY. That is the only link that we have had among all the various Guilds.

There was a publishing firm in New York City that wanted to get the rights to this publication. They saw that it was really a commercial thing. We said we would keep it and carry it along as best we could, rather than give it over to commercialization. If we can develop this magazine into a fine, outstanding—and we hope to do it—medical Catholic magazine, we are going to do a great deal to further the Guild idea.

I would suggest that all of you who have ideas, try to express them in some way during the convention to see how we can develop Guilds in the various cities and develop the Federation, and especially through the LINACRE QUARTERLY.

Thank you very much. (Applause.)

President Brennan: Dr. Danna of New Orleans.

Dr. Danna (New Orleans): This is my first attendance at this meeting.

There are two points that have occurred to me that I might bring up. The first one has probably been brought up before and you have decided to let it stay as it is. That is, instead of having the meeting during the three days of the active meetings of the American Medical Association that it might be a good idea to have the meeting on the day before.

There might be arguments both ways on that. Most of the men do not get here on Monday and Tuesday. They get here for the Wednesday, Thursday and Friday meetings. However, we are all missing something this morning by attending this meeting. I felt that perhaps a meeting on the day before would be more advantageous.

One important thing that I would like to bring before this body is this: the American Medical Association and all doctors generally are opposed to publications in the newspapers of the sale of remedies that are not perfectly ethical, and we are fighting them all the time. However, in our own Catholic magazines appear such advertisements as, “For the so-and-so remedy,” and a picture of a Reverend Father.

We know that most of those remedies are really not ethical remedies, not remedies that the medical profession would back. They are the sort of advertisements that the American Medical Association has been fighting all the time.

I think this Guild, this Federation should take some action to
try to overcome the tendency to
the publication of those advertise-
ments in Catholic magazines. (Ap-
plause.)

DR. A. WASHBURN (New York
City): I would like to second
heartily the suggestion just made.
I think we also ought to take up
the advertisements that appear in
our parish notes.

For instance, I go to church
here in New York, in Manhattan,
and I see various dentists adver-
tising, and I see chiropractors ad-
vertising, I see massage parlors
advertising. I have been going
to consult the authorities of my
own Church but I feel that it would
come more fittingly from the
Guilds, the Catholic Physicians'
Guilds.

I not only want to heartily sec-
ond Dr. Danna’s suggestion, but
I feel that we cannot take up any-
thing that is more important than
this at this meeting. We all feel
this way about it, so let us get to-
gether and do something about it.

I think if each parish could have
a committee of physicians to ad-
vises the Fathers who edit the mag-
azines we would not have this sit-
uation. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT BRENNAN: I am go-
ing to ask the two gentlemen who
have spoken, to get together, if
they will, and present something
in definite form and we will discuss
that more completely.

At this time I will have the Sec-
retary read a communication from
Father Garesché, of the Mission
Board.

(Dr. Steinbugler read the letter
dated February 12, 1940 from the
Catholic Medical Mission Board.)

PRESIDENT BRENNAN: Inasmuch
as this is along the line of our aims
and purposes we took care of this
at once. Here I might say that
we have selected Dr. Harry
Blaber of Brooklyn, New York,
who spent five years in China in
the Catholic Medical Missions, as
the Chairman of this committee.
He can associate with him in his
work those who he feels will be
best qualified and will carry on
the work, helping Father Garesché
in his mission.

Father Garesché is here and
with your permission I am going
to ask him to say a word or two
in regard to his wants and in what
way we can help him. (Applause.)

FATHER EDWARD F. GARESCHE:
Dr. Brennan and dear Friends of
the Guilds: I am going to be very
brief. First, I wish to express
sincere gratitude to all of you who
have already helped us by sending
samples of medicine and helping
the work in other ways.

I am going to take these few
minutes to give you a brief outline
of what the Catholic Medical Mis-
sion Board is, what it means both
professionally and religiously.

This Board is a voluntary or-
ganization composed mostly of
the heads of Mission Societies in
the United States—Propagation
of Faith, Church Extension So-
ciety, Near East Welfare, all have
representatives on our Board.

Its purpose is to help medical
work in the Missions, both to re-
lieve the body and also, and espe-
cially, to use medical work as a means to help the soul. Our motto is, "The body for the sake of the soul, and the body and soul for God."

We work both for this country and for the foreign field. Just this morning Bishop Toolin, of Mobile, sent a doctor up to me to ask for help for a dispensary and a hospital there. The conditions that he described among the colored people are simply terrible. They exceed the need that we find in many of the mission fields. We are going to help them. We are going to give him enough instruments to constitute a value of about $600 so as to almost completely equip an operating room and delivery room in the hospital.

We also are interested in China, India, and Japan — wherever we can do good by sending supplies, making suggestions and giving help, we do so.

The work is carried on as follows: For ten years we have been systematizing the work. Whenever a missionary applies we send him a questionnaire. It is the result of years of experience that brings out the feature of medical work. We have about 1,000 of those questionnaires at 8 and 10 West 17th Street. They are a most complete and authoritative series of mission-help statistics in the Catholic Church. They are all sent in by the missionaries. They are all detailed and authentic accounts.

The need of the missions is simply indescribable. The primitive civilizations have no medical help at all. Some of the missions are four, five, and seven hundred miles from a hospital. There are no doctors, nor nurses, nor drug stores near, and nobody knows how to take care of the people. The missionaries tell us of the immense need and immense good that is done. We do all we can. We appeal to the doctors to send in sample medicines of all kinds, as these are very valuable, and there are many uses to which we can put them in the country. They go to fields where there are no supplies at all.

We help, in some cases, to pay the salary of a doctor when we get sufficient money for it. We help to pay the salary, sometimes, of nurses and social workers. Our means are entirely inadequate. We open the mail every morning to see just how much support we get for that day. Our whole income, I suppose, in a year is about $1,000 a month, and the value of the supplies that we send out is about $50,000 or $60,000 a year. Last year, we packed and shipped about 306 packing cases which contained 32,000 pounds of medical supplies.

Our great need is to make people know this work and to cooperate with it.

In addition to the actual work that we are doing, it occurred to me about six years ago that we had to have a community of Sisters devoted to this work. The existing communities were all overworked. I appealed to several of
them to help the work and they said they could not take on any more work. I told His Eminence, the late Cardinal Hayes, that I thought we ought to have a new community devoted especially to this mission work. He sent me an Indult on the 10th of June, 1935, to start such a community. The purpose of this community is very special. There isn’t any community, so far as I know, just like it in the Church.

First of all, its purpose is primarily educational. The only way that we can send out any adequate number of medical workers in the missions, nurses and doctors, is to educate the natives. Therefore, these Sisters are going to specialize in establishing centrally located nursing schools, which are going to be catechetical schools to educate numbers of native women among the Negroes in this country and among the Indians, perhaps, and in the foreign fields.

A great many Bishops and Vicars Apostolic have appealed to me already for these schools of nursing, but we have to give the Sisters a special training and give it to them to fit them, both religiously and professionally, for this work. We hope in the course of years to prepare also for a centrally located medical school for women where some of the Sisters will teach, and where other professors will also teach. If we could establish two or three well located schools of nursing and then, in the course of 13 or 14 years, perhaps, establish a centrally-located medical school, we would transform to a large extent the situation in the medical mission work field.

At the present time, the work in the missions is mostly first-aid work. I do not know personally more than about twenty well-equipped doctors in the whole mission field. There are more, but I am not in touch with them. I do not believe there are more than five or six religious sisters who are capable of doing medical work from a professional standpoint, that is, those registered with doctors.

On the 11th of February, 1936, the late Holy Father issued an epoch-making and almost revolutionary decree, or instructions, which was sent to me by Cardinal Hayes. The Holy Father said that since there was so much more mortality among women and mothers and children in the missions, the Holy Father wanted new methods to meet the new needs. He wanted new communities of women who would become not only nurses but doctors and even surgeons. He authorized them to go to medical schools to get diplomas. He wanted them to have an excellent education. He instructed that the sisters should not only be in the work themselves but that they should teach native women to do the work. That was for the regions where there are no doctors, and that is not intended for a country where the medical profession is well established.

In Africa, the infant mortality
runs to 95 per cent. The other day, one missionary said that 95 out of 100 of the new-born babies die within a few weeks because of want of care. One of the missionaries said that the infant mortality was 45 per cent. They got two women in there who knew something about children, and they sent them around to instruct the mothers. Inside of a few months the mortality dropped from 45 to 2 per cent. There is a huge slaughter of the innocents going on from want of proper care.

I could go on at length. I am very grateful to Dr. Brennan for appointing this committee, and I shall be glad to give any further information and help I can in making it function successfully.

Thank you. (Applause.)

President Brennan: Father Garesché is so sincerely interested in the welfare of the missions and does so much to further that type of endeavor that I wanted to give him this opportunity at least to face you and to say something and imbue you with some of his enthusiasm and inspiration. I am sure that he will find in Dr. Blaber a doctor with experience and one who will give him the sympathetic understanding and cooperation that he so desires.

I notice that some of the Presidents of neighboring Guilds are here. Dr. McLaughlin, of the Philadelphia Guild, will you come up and say a word?

(Appause.)

Dr. Edward F. McLaughlin (Philadelphia): Mr. President and Reverend Father and Fellow Members: I think this meeting is primarily interested in the problems of the Federation as a Federation and that our viewpoint should be one of our national problems. For that reason I think that we must face this problem of organizing Guilds in other cities as our most important one.

I had the opportunity to attend a meeting in Philadelphia of the Regional Birth Control Committee. It is a rather hackneyed subject, I know, for you but just to serve as an illustrative thing, that organization is being built up through the country by definite organizers who go from city to city and whip up the socialite element, have luncheons, and so on. The actual work of organization is done by definite organizers. There is no question about that.

I think if we are to combat that particular thing, and get to our more important problems also, I think our organization must organize in the same way. We must have definite, paid organizers to establish these Guilds in different cities.

As a suggestion toward bringing something concrete to this problem, I would suggest that the President appoint two men as national organizers for this Guild and that their duties be to contact men in the various cities to start Guilds. As a definite point for us to attain, I suggest that we try to add twenty new Guilds to our Federation in the next year...

There is one other thought that
I would like to speak about just for a second and that is the education of new Catholic physicians.

In my own medical class there were, roughly, 100 men of whom about 70 per cent were Protestants, about 20 per cent or more were Jewish, and less than 10 per cent were Catholics.

The population of this country is divided in proportions entirely different from that. The Catholics constitute about one-fifth of the population of this country. Therefore, we should have at least 20 per cent representation in the medical schools. I think that one of the most important works of this Federation is to stimulate interest and offer help in a material way to those Catholic young men who are finishing high school, or preparatory school, and who would be interested in studying medicine. I offer that as a suggestion for the Federation to undertake. Thank you. (Applause.)

President Brennan: We are glad to receive these suggestions from Dr. McLaughlin.

Dr. Arthur Whelan (Jackson Heights): I would like to second that motion that the doctor made. Just in that connection, a young man came to my office last night. He was from Fordham University. He tried to get into medical school and had written to Georgetown, but he did not get a favorable reply. I told him to get in touch with the President of Fordham. He had never thought of that.

That is really quite a problem. I think that we should have more of our own men in the schools.

We, as a Federation, ought to do something definite to get behind that.

President Brennan: You have heard the suggestion, which we will consider in the form of a motion. There has been a seconder to it. Is there any discussion?

The motion is for the furtherance of every effort to get Catholic students desiring medical education placed in their medical schools, to be taken up by the Executive Committee and that plans should be evolved to carry that out properly.

Dr. Conboy: I would like to make a suggestion that it would be a good thing if we would contact the Presidents of the Newman Clubs of the various schools.

I think that should be taken up at the Executive Committee meeting and acted on.

(The motion was put to a vote and was carried.)

President Brennan: The matter will be taken up at the Executive Committee meeting and ways and means formulated to carry out the desires expressed on the floor.

One of the most stimulating Guilds in the country is situated in Belleville. Monsignor Gruenewald, the Moderator, has been most inspiring and his Bulletin commands attention and certainly deserves congratulation. I have read it with great interest and have gotten a great deal of instruction from it.
The President of the Belleville Guild is here today. Dr. Donahue.

Dr. James J. Donahue: Dr. Brennan, Fellow Doctors: I am very happy to take a moment or two to bring the greetings of Belleville and say that our Moderator wanted nothing more than to come to meet with you. However, due to a recent operation, Monsignor Gruenewald was unable to do so. He is recovering nicely and we are sure that he will continue to do so.

I think we certainly must use every effort to extend the Guild movement. Since Archbishop Rummel has taken it under his wing surely we can expect the support of the Hierarchy from top to bottom. Isolated instances, naturally, will have to be met where, through ignorance or through misunderstandings as to our real purposes, lethargy will have to be overcome. That is a simple matter, and I am sure it can be met by those of us who either are Guild members, or who through presence at this meeting and reading the literature that you have had available understand what the motives are.

As a concrete example, our Diocese, located in the southern tier of Illinois, is widely scattered, almost entirely rural, has only a small membership. Yet we are able by the use of LINACRE, and also through our local mimeographed Bulletin to keep pretty well-knit together.

The extension work of the Guild certainly ought to receive our attention. It would be ideal, surely, if paid organizers were available. We must, as a Federation, consider the matter of raising our Federation dues, possibly only modestly at first, with that object in mind. That extension, plus the support of the LINACRE, which we must consider as something that primarily must go on, we can promote.

I think that our proximity to St. Louis has, in a measure, been a stimulus to them to organize.

I can report a conversation that I had just recently with Dr. Allen, who is their Secretary, that the first organization meeting where by-laws and constitution were adopted, had about sixty or seventy men, and there are about forty or fifty more who, they are sure, will be charter members.

Although I do think that paid organizers are ideal, catching the Guild idea by contagion is certainly a very fruitful thing. Possibly it might even be better from the standpoint of sticking, if those of us who are scattered around the country would spread the idea.

I must not forget to say that in our situation it seemed wise to take into our small group the dentists also. The precedent for that had been established previously, and we have altered our constitution and by-laws in such a way that all Catholic members of the dental profession are now eligible. And I may add that a very large number of candidates have already been admitted. I give you greet-
ing from Belleville, Illinois. Thank you. (Applause.)

President Brennan: Dr. O'Shea has a resolution he desires to offer.

Dr. Maurice O'Shea: In view of the poor health of Dr. James J. Walsh, which prevents him from being present at this meeting, be it

Resolved, That the Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds extend to Dr. James J. Walsh its sincere thanks and deep appreciation for his many contributions of brilliant, scholarly and timely articles to the Linacre Quarterly; and be it further

Resolved, That we extend to him our best wishes for good health and a long life.

(Upon motion made and seconded the resolution was adopted.)

President Brennan: We have a member here from Boston. Dr. Spellman, would you say something to us this morning?

Dr. John Spellman (Boston): I just want to say that this is my first attendance at one of these national meetings. I have attended the Boston meetings with a great deal of pleasure. I think this year our Boston Guild has been more successful than ever. I want to thank you for the opportunity of being here this morning. (Applause.)

President Brennan: Dr. Otis from New Orleans.

Dr. Walter Joseph Otis (New Orleans): Mr. Chairman and Members: I have been listening with great interest to the different topics that have been brought up, and have enjoyed every one of them. . . .

In a number of instances we are contacted by our intimate non-Catholic doctors who very frankly ask us questions. "Why does the Church do this? Why does the Church demand that? Why did you do so-and-so at this particular place or time? I feel that aside from the essentials, which we are bound to know, that we should elaborate on our reading matter. The interpretations are not complex. It is all along the line of education. It helps us to be more intelligently prepared to answer some of the questions. We should school ourselves a little more and possibly in a little more detail in answering some of the problems that our very nearest and dearest friends will put to us from time to time. . . .

President Brennan: Thank you, Dr. Otis. Is there anything else that is to come before us?

Dr. Danna: May I present the sketch of a resolution?

WHEREAS, the American Medical Association has, for years, been actively fighting fraudulent advertising relating to remedies and methods of treatment; and

WHEREAS, the Catholic press contains many such objectionable advertisements; be it

Resolved, that this Federation condemns the publication of such advertisements, and more particularly those carrying the suggestion of Church approval, such as might be indicated by such a name
as Father John's Remedy, often accompanied by the picture of a venerable-looking priest; be it further

RESOLVED, that a standing committee be appointed to give this matter such attention and action as it merits.

DR. WASHBURN: I move the adoption of this resolution exactly as it was read.

DR. MCLAUGHLIN: I move that it be amended to state that a copy of the resolution be sent to the various Catholic papers.

(The motion as amended was put to a vote and was carried.)

PRESIDENT BRENNAN: Is there any further business to come up at this time?

If not, I will ask for a report from the Nominating Committee. Dr. Lavelle, of Queens.

Dr. Lavelle then read the slate; the nominations were seconded and the officers duly elected.

PRESIDENT BRENNAN: Gentlemen, for my own sake I thank you very kindly for the honor that you have conferred upon me in making me your presiding officer. I was glad to fill out the term of the late Dr. Dillon. I was inspired by his example. We will continue to carry on with that idea in mind, and we bespeak your support throughout the coming year. I thank you. (Applause.) The other officers accepted and promised to do their utmost for the Federation.

PRESIDENT BRENNAN: I think before we go on we must appreciate that since the beginning of this Federation the Secretary has been Dr. William Steinbugler. He has spared no effort to carry on and function for the best interests of this organization. He finds it difficult and impossible to continue in this capacity. I feel that we owe him a great debt of gratitude. We should show him our appreciation. So I ask, in his regard, a rising vote of appreciation to Dr. Steinbugler.

(The membership arose.) (Applause.)

DR. STEINBUGLER: Mr. President and Fellow Members of the Guild: It certainly has been a pleasure for me to function in the capacity of Secretary for this prolonged period of time. I have asked at different times to be relieved of my duties, but I was urged to carry on.

It was indeed a real pleasure to work with such men as the late Dr. Dillon and Dr. Brennan.

I thank you for your expression of appreciation. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT BRENNAN: Way down in the rear of the room I see Dr. Richard Rendich, who, with Father Cox was one of the men responsible for the organization of the Federation and its beginnings, growth and developments. He was President for six years.

I will ask Dr. Rendich to come to the front and say a word at this time. (Applause.)

DR. RICHARD RENDICH: Mr. Chairman, Father and Members: I want to say that while credit is generally given to me for the formation of the organization, I was
just a small part of it. I was only one of the group that got this going.

Just to be here this morning and see the growth of this organization is sufficient for one who had even the smallest part in the formation of it. It certainly is a pleasure and I want to thank you all for this privilege. (Applause.)

President Brennan: At this time I want to thank the various committees that have labored to make this a successful meeting. For the Dinner Committee I want to thank Dr. Waldie. To Dr. Maurice O'Shea we are indebted for publicity and for many other aids. To Dr. Byrne for the arrangement for the convention, and to Dr. Conboy for the arrangements for the Mass this morning.

Dr. Byrne: I think we should have a motion spread on the

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