February 1967

Editorial

Gino G. Papola
EDITORIAL

Philadelphia, the city of brotherly love, is the birthplace of American Independence. It is also the birthplace of American medicine; the first hospital in the United States, still in existence, was founded in Philadelphia—Pennsylvania Hospital, established in 1751. The first magazine in America was published here in 1741; the first daily newspaper in 1784. Philadelphia is a national commercial, industrial, cultural and educational center. These interests were manifest early in the city’s history and have continued until today.

There are five of the best medical schools in the world in Philadelphia—Temple Medical School, the University of Pennsylvania Medical School, Jefferson Medical College, Hahnemann Medical College and Woman's Medical College. The Philadelphia College of Osteopathy, one of the leading osteopathic schools in the country, is located in this city. Philadelphia General Hospital—"Old Blockley"—where the great William Osler taught medicine, is still one of the most respected general hospitals in the world. Also, Philadelphia is the home of the Medical Mission Sisters, a religious order of nuns whose members are physicians, nurses and other professional personnel founded by Mother Anna Dengel. This society of dedicated women has built and staffed hospitals in India, Pakistan, Africa, Viet Nam and South America. Serving the medical community of Philadelphia are six Catholic hospitals dedicated to excellence in medical care and medical education.

The theme of this issue is one of the diversity of interests and dedication to which the Catholic physicians of Philadelphia have devoted themselves—the work of the Medical Mission Sisters; the staffing of the medical schools in positions of heads of departments; their work in the research field; their efforts with the Peace Corps and the Anti-Poverty program and their interest in family life.

This issue is dedicated to all the Catholic physicians of Philadelphia. May they be as a light, ever brilliant and inexhaustible, giving dignity to suffering mankind. It is dedicated also to their devoted wives who have inspired these men of medicine to do their best.

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