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"Casement": A Proposal to the Guild of St. Luke of Central City

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DURING THE PAST FEW YEARS, THE LINACRE QUARTERLY HAS INCREASED IN QUANTITY AND, WE HOPE YOU WILL AGREE, IN QUALITY. WITH THIS HAVE COME ADDED EXPENSES FOR PRODUCTION. TO CONTINUE TO SUPPLY THE JOURNAL TO OUR READERS, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NATIONAL FEDERATION VOTED TO INCREASE THE ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATE TO $4.00. BILLING WILL REFLECT THIS CHANGE, EFFECTIVE AS OF DECEMBER 1, 1966. WE ARE SORRY THIS IS NECESSARY BUT THE REALITY OF MOUNTING COSTS IS NOT ABSORBED IN THE FORMER $2.00 RATE.

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to participate. These might include psychiatrist members of the Guild, non-member psychiatrists, physicians concerned with the problem, psychologists, priests, and others.

Merely for purposes of ready reference and to avoid obvious identification, it is suggested that the project be called simply "Casement," after Sir Roger Casement, the Irish patriot executed in 1916, who may or may not have been himself a victim of the problem but who certainly had enlightened ideas on its nature and tragedy. "Casement" would be primarily a service, and secondarily an investigative project. It would be publicized only by word of mouth. It would not keep records, except in a general way for purposes of evaluating its effectiveness. It would not involve money in any way, either for dues or expenses. Its very existence need be known only to priests, Guild members, and others who might have occasion to refer subjects. It would function under the auspices of, but not under the immediate and direct control of, the Guild of St. Luke and its officers.

"Casement" is therefore proposed not as a sole answer to the problem of the relevance of the Guild in 1967, but as a type-project that would increase member-participation in an area of special competence and concern and that would constitute a service of peculiarly Christian dimensions for persons who have heretofore been viewed with a certain degree of distaste.

[DR. LAFORET is assistant clinical professor of thoracic surgery, Boston University School of Medicine.]

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**Book Review**

**Health to Match Her Dedication**

BY JAMES T. NIX, M.D. AND C. J. FECHER, PH.D.

This manual on medical care of religious is a compilation of writings by fourteen authors — each an authority in the field of physical and mental health. It represents a first and a basic contribution to the promotion of adequate health care in religious communities. It is the direct outgrowth of an effort launched by the National Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds when Dr. James Nix was appointed chairman of its committee to upgrade health of clergy and religious.

The second author, Dr. Con J. Fecher, has been the pioneer in statistical and actuarial studies of the health of nuns. His first study was in 1927. In cooperation with Dr. Nix and the Conference of Major Religious Superiors, his studies have expanded widely since 1955.

The American Cancer Society has shown its confidence in the progressive investigation by two successive grants for the study of cancer deaths in nuns.

The scope of the manual includes:

1. A history of the studies on religious health.
2. The need for a comprehensive health program.
3. The inauguration of a specific health program.
4. The administration of the program and
5. Mental Health.

_Health to Match Her Dedication_ is a catechism of health promotion long needed by medical, psychological, sociological, and administrative auxiliaries.

_**Copy price is $1.75 — or $1.50 in quantity.**_

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