President's Page: Reality, Reverant Relevance and Reform

B. J. O'Loughlin
How could Pope Paul have done or said other than he did? He has resisted the compulsions of the statistics, the economic determinism and the political absolutism of an age of computers and conformism destructive of the person. He has defended life and love against political controls and selfishness ultimately destructive of both. With apostolic integrity he has braved the sneers of the cynical and the honest dissent of those who do not share his faith concerning the divine origins and eternal purposes of life and of love. Pope Paul, even as every Catholic Christian, must do everything humanly possible and divinely permitted to realize the hopes of humanity and to alleviate the woes of the world beginning with the material poverty that inhibits the transmission of life and with cultural poverty that hampers the enjoyment of love. But he cannot call light darkness or darkness light, what is false true, what is evil good. This was forbidden him, in so many words, when he was consecrated a bishop, an authentic teacher in the Church, long before he acquired the awesome obligations which are his as Chief Shepherd of Christ’s flock.

God console, preserve, protect and strengthen him — and all the faithful!

Most Rev. John J. Wright
Bishop of Pittsburgh
July 30, 1968

Reality, Reverant Relevance and Reform

Medicine has become more man-centered and interested in human basics of life. Honesty, integrity, perfectibility, death and immortality are encourant. Medical education is concerned with these matters as well, and sometimes as intensely, as with scientific and political concerns. Medical education should consider these matters also and it is an appropriate subject of concern for the National Federation of Catholic Physicians’ Guild and for the medical schools. Elective, elective courses in Religion, Humanities, and Social Science are offered in some medical schools. Theology which has again only recently become a subject is having its hard knocks and Newman’s idea of a university may survive the current attacks on academic freedom. The reaction to an excess of student activism is itself excessive and can be dangerously restricted.

For the last ten years the younger members of the NFCPG have been trying to divert the organization’s attention away from “Pelvic Morality” toward other problems of the day, more in keeping with Christ’s admonition to love our brothers, neighbors and enemies. The recent successes of the “Abortion Lobby” caused great consternation. The encyclical Humanae Vitae severely tested their orthodoxy. It appears that even the Curia and the Pope cannot stay away from this area for long. Many are asking the Federation to assume a simple and definite position on Humanae Vitae. Some guilds warn us that all guilds must be consulted before we assume an official stance, especially one that might be contrary to Vatican Council II’s Constitution of the Church in the Modern World. While all may see the strong hand of the Holy Spirit in that document, not all would make such a claim for Pope Paul’s recent encyclical. It is obviously a closely reasoned treatise intended to clarify and teach the truths of the natural moral law. These
It is imperative, however, that each Catholic physician read the documents of Humanae Vitae and commentaries upon it. Each of us must be prepared to discuss it intelligently with patients and colleagues. It is truly one of the most important documents of our day.

B. J. O'Loughlin, M.D.

HOTEL ROOM RESERVATION FORM

Mail this form in your envelope to: NFCPG, 2825 North Mayfair Road, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53222.

ROOM RESERVATION FOR MONTMARTRE HOTEL

Arrival Date Time
Departure Date Time

Check Accommodations desired: Special Instructions:

Single . . . $12.00 $16.00
Double . . . $16.00

(Only a limited number of $12 singles are available. $16 rooms all have private terraces.)

Number of persons in my party

Number of rooms required City State Zip

NFCPG ANNUAL MEETING
Nov. 30-Dec. 1, Miami Beach, Florida

The 1968 annual meeting of the NFCPG will be held at the Montmartre Hotel, 47th Street and Ocean Drive, Miami Beach, Florida, Saturday and Sunday, November 30 - December 1. It will coincide with the AMA Clinical meeting which opens December 1 in Miami Beach. The Montmartre is adjacent to the AMA headquarters hotel.

Mass will be celebrated each morning in the hotel at 8:00 a.m. A lunch and a dinner (see program) will be held on Saturday, Nov. 30. Wives and families are invited to attend all the activities.

A hospitality room for wives will be open during the day Saturday.

The annual business assembly of the federation will be held at 9:00 a.m. Sunday. All members of local Catholic Physicians' Guilds are invited to attend the business meeting.

The meeting will conclude at 12:00 noon on Sunday.

PROGRAM

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29
4:00 to 7:00 P.M. - Registration.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30
8:00 A.M. - Mass.

"The Catholic Student in the Catholic Medical School"

9:00 A.M. - "Relevance of Catholic Medical Schools in Modern Society," Father Edward J. Drummond, S.J., Vice President, St. Louis University Medical Center, St. Louis, Missouri.

9:45 A.M. - "Reorganization In Catholic Medical Education," Bernard J. O'Loughlin, M.D., President, National Federation of Catholic Physician's Guilds and Professor and Chairman Department of Radiological Sciences, University of California at Irvine.

10:00 A.M. - COFFEE - Recess.

10:15 A.M. - "Involvement of Catholic Medical Professors," Robert J. Boucek, Professor of Medicine, University of Miami School of Medicine.

10:35 A.M. - "The Student's View of His Religion in His Medical Education," James Worden, Senior Medical Student and President, Catholic Students Medical Guild, University of Miami School of Medicine.