February 1958

Minutes of the December Meeting - 1957: The Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guild

Catholic Physicians' Guilds

Follow this and additional works at: http://epublications.marquette.edu/lnq

Recommended Citation
Available at: http://epublications.marquette.edu/lnq/vol25/iss1/18
Modern Miraculous Cures

Francois Leurent, M.D. and Henri Bon, M.D.

(Translated by A. T. MacQueen, M.D. and Rev. John C. Barry)

Review by

NORMAN M. MACNEILL, M.D.

This seems unquestionably the best medical treatise on miraculous cures written up to the present time, and if most of the cases reported are from the Lourdes Shrine, it is because Doctor Leurent is former president of the Medical Bureau and Scientific Studies at Lourdes. His co-author, Doctor Henri Bon, is a noted contributor to French medical literature.

By happy chance, this book, as well as the outstanding one on Lourdes by the late Ruth Cramp, a non-Catholic, appears on the eve of the centenary celebration, which, although it has passed, seems to have been the providential antidote to the misapplication by materialists to the idea of a naturalistic theory of man, sparked by Darwin's "Origin of Species," published one year later (1859).

The book presents a fascinating technical study of its subject and suggests that the study of miracles demands that we recognize and broaden our views beyond the anthropomorphic limits and rise above the level of the sort of laws laid down by materialists.

Physicians, medical students and nurses will enjoy this book and profit by it. Its factual descriptions of occurring phenomena, which are so often misunderstood as to make it an invaluable adjunct to our necessarily imperfect understanding of the miraculous.

Modern Miraculous Cures

Published by

Farrar, Straus and Cudahy

215 pages

$3.50

LINACRE QUARTERLY

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER MEETING 1957

THE FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC PHYSICIANS' GUILDS

The December meeting of the Executive Board of The Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds was held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, December 7-8, 1957, at the Philadelphia Hotel. The following were present:

Officers
W. J. Egan, M.D. — President
E. E. Murphy, M.D. — First Vice-President
J. E. Holoubek, M.D. — Second Vice-President
C. P. Cunningham, M.D. — Third Vice-President
J. J. Graff, M.D. — Secretary

Others
 Rt. Rev. Msgr. D. A. McGowan — Moderator
 Rev. J. J. Flanagan, S.J. — Editor, THE LINACRE QUARTERLY
 D. A. Mullvihill, M.D. — Honorary President
 J. J. Toland, Jr., M.D. — Past President
 Wm. P. Chester, M.D. — Past President
 M. F. Yepp, M.D. — Past President
 Mr. M. R. Kneill — Executive Secretary
 Miss Jean Read — Assistant Secretary

Affiliated Guilds represented

Alice Holoubek, M.D. — Shreveport, La.
Charles Cawley, M.D. — Brooklyn, N. Y.
Rev. James Fitzpatrick — Brooklyn and Queens, N. Y.
G. Griffin, M.D. — Brooklyn, N. Y.
J. J. Flannery, M.D. — Rockville Centre, N. Y.
D. J. Bradley, M.D. — Rockville Centre, N. Y.
Geo. Price, M.D. — Brooklyn, N. Y.
N. M. MacNeil, M.D. — Philadelphia, Pa. (Rene Goupil)
J. M. Gambrel, M.D. — Philadelphia, Pa. (St. Francis of Assisi)
J. J. English, M.D. — Philadelphia, Pa. (St. Francis of Assisi)
Rev. F. O'Brien, M.D. — Cleveland, Ohio
Rev. Very Rev. Msgr. F. W. Carney — Cathedral, Ohio
J. J. Mcgirr, M.D. — Westminster, N. Y.
S. L. Porter, M.D. — Stamford, Conn.
F. E. Darrow, M.D. — Oklahoma City, Okla.
Fred M. Ivens, M.D. — Houston, Texas
E. J. Murphy, M.D. — Bronx, N. Y.
Wm. P. Chester, M.D. — Detroit, Mich.
D. A. Mullvihill, M.D. — New York, N. Y.
J. J. Graff, M.D. — Wilmington, Del.
C. P. Cunningham, M.D. — Rock Island, Ill.
B. R. Marger, M.D. — Allentown, Pa. (Retired)

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. with prayer by

Very Rev. Msgr. F. W. Carney, Moderator of the Cleveland Guild.

After roll call, the president requested vote on the minutes of the Executive Board Meeting, June 4, 1957, in New York, N. Y., as mailed by the central office, dispensing with the reading thereof. Approved as mailed.

FEBRUARY, 1958

33
As his first report, Dr. William J. Egan of the Boston Guild, elected to the presidency at the June 1957 executive board meeting, advised of his efforts to promote the organization of new Guilds throughout New England, contacting the Bishops of the various dioceses.

Announcement was made of committees to assist with the activities of the Federation. Members are as follows:

**CONSTITUTION**
- Eusebius J. Murphy, M.D., Chairman
  - Bronx Guild
  - Bronx, N.Y.
- William P. Chester, M.D.
  - Detroit Guild
  - Detroit, Mich.
- A. M. Alexander, Jr., M.D.
  - Alexandria Guild
  - Alexandria, La.

**MEMBERSHIP**
- Gerard Griffin, M.D., Chairman
  - Brooklyn Guild
  - Brooklyn, N.Y.
- Rev. J. J. Flanagan, S.J.
  - Editor
  - St. Louis, Mo.
- Rev. J. J. Toland, Jr., M.D.
  - Philadelphia (Rene Goupil) Guild

**EXHIBIT**
- C. C. Wright, M.D.
  - Sacramento Guild
  - Sacramento, Calif.
- Thomas J. Fox, M.D.
  - Portland Guild
  - Portland, Oregon
- B. J. Hoeflich, M.D.
  - Eugene Guild
  - Eugene, Oregon

**LINACRE QUARTERLY**
- Rev. J. J. Lynch, S.J.
  - Weston College
  - Weston, Mass.
- N. P. Thiberge, M.D.
  - New Orleans Guild
  - New Orleans, La.
- D. A. Mulvihill, M.D.
  - New York Guild
  - New York, N.Y.

**MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIPS**
- Rev. Austin E. Miller, S.J.
  - Creighton University
  - Omaha, Nebr.
- M. F. Fein, M.D.
  - Cleveland Guild
  - Cleveland, Ohio

**Report of the Moderator**
Report was made of new Guilds in process — Toledo, Ohio; Trenton, N.J.; Ogdensburg, N.Y.

**MEMBERSHIP**
- It was reported that 69 Guilds now comprise the Federation with a membership of 4,603. The Membership Committee, Chairman Editor, is the 100th Anniversary of Lourdes. Msgr. McGowan was authorized to represent the Federation at this Conference. All Catholic Physicians attending are to be designated as delegates from the Federation.

**FEES**
- Fee for membership in the International Federation of Catholic Physicians was stated to be based per capita or a total of some $250.00, payable to the International Secretary.

**THE LINACRE QUARTERLY**
- Report of subscriptions indicated the November 1957 issue mailing to be 8,970. 4,603 copies reach members of Catholic Physicians Guilds. To increase subscriptions, advertising in selected journals was authorized. Editorial-wise, it was reported that more medical articles are needed. It was suggested to contact the dean of medical schools for articles. To stimulate interest, it was suggested that each Guild appoint a member to be responsible for sending material to the Editorial Board for publication consideration.

**Membership Report**
- It was reported that 69 Guilds now comprise the Federation with a membership of 4,603. The Membership Committee chairman reported that the aim is to promote the organization of new Guilds throughout New England, contacting the Bishops of the various dioceses.
Federation Exhibit

During the American Medical Association Convention, to be held in San Francisco June 23-27, 1958, the Federation will again sponsor an exhibit. Dr. Gerard Griffin, chairman of the Exhibit Committee, advised that assistance would be forthcoming from members. Guilds on the west coast will be asked to take responsibility for a day at the booth. Literature will be available for distribution and Pharmaceutical Guild members will be present to talk with visitors.

The chairman asked that Guilds advise him of any members planning to attend the A.M.A. convention in San Francisco.

Report of Silver Jubilee Celebration

Dr. D. A. Mulvihill, chairman of the Federation, Silver Jubilee celebration, reported details of the occasion. He advised that with funds borrowed from the Federation general treasury and Guilds in New York, 7500 invitations and 1035 letters of solicitation were mailed. A volunteer corps gave great assistance. Pharmaceutical houses gave donations amounting to $7000. Pharmacy houses gave substantial donations. The Community and St. Luke's Guilds were patrons. Cash gifts amounted to nearly $16,000. There were 96 guests at the banquet.

Gratitude was expressed to Dr. Murphy, chairman of the committee present at the Silver Jubilee celebration. He emphasized the tremendous effort to make this occasion the success it was. A word of praise was also accorded the wives of the doctors who were also very helpful.

The day's business drew to a close with prayers by the committee and their wives, proffered by Rev. Fr. Fitzpatrick.

The meeting is Sunday, December 8, and began at 10:00 a.m.

The "White Mass"

Special report of the "White Mass" observance to honor St. Luke, October 18, has been prepared and distributed relating the activities in many localities for the occasion. The establishment of the annual "White Mass" throughout the country was acknowledged the Federation's most important function.

Annual Meeting, Federation Executive Board

The annual meeting of the Federation Executive Board will be held Wednesday, June 25, in San Francisco. Representatives will assist at Mass offered for deceased members of the Federation followed by the meeting. An afternoon reception will take place at 4:30, for all Catholic physicians attending the convention.

Winter Board Meeting, 1958

It was voted to hold the winter Executive Board meeting, December 6 and 7, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

To encourage Guilds to send a delegate to Board meetings, the president was asked to write the groups urging that they defray the expenses of members who will give the time to attend.

Reports of Committees

Projects

The following project suggestions were made:

1. That each Guild sponsor an annual retreat.
2. That the June Executive Board meeting always include Mass for deceased members.
3. That more Guild publicity be initiated locally to acquaint individual communities with these organizations.

4. That the "White Mass" be promoted in every area of the country.
5. To promote Medical School Student Guilds.

(Mr. William Gordon, a senior at Temple University, addressed the Board advising the needs of Catholic students. They often have no answers to their problems. The doctor-student relationship is not close as too few doctors devote time and effort to working with students. The enthusiasm of the organizations varies. To stabilize them and encourage attendance, well-prepared speakers are needed. It is felt that through such student organizations, habits of Catholic Action will be formed and provide deeper spiritual motivation. If strong student groups are formed, those same members will be encouraged to form Catholic Physicians' Guilds later. It was mentioned that in Philadelphia there are five student groups and it is hoped a national organization will eventually develop. Women's Medical College reported an active group, receiving excellent assistance from Catholic members of the faculty.

The activities of the student medical groups in non-Catholic universities in Boston were explained by Father Michael Walsh, S.J., moderator of the groups. He advised of monthly meetings with joint sessions, non-Catholic students attending. The president of the group should be the leader; the interest of others is measured by his own. Needs of respective groups must be met; topics of interest to seniors do not necessarily encourage first year students to attend sessions.)

Applications to form Guilds in areas where there are medical schools will be urged to cooperate with these student groups, assisting with meetings and solving problems.

Medical Scholarships

Pending investigation of available funds, the promotion of medical scholarships through the Federation will be held in abeyance.

The Linacre Quarterly

Guild members are to be urged to write for the Federation journal. Articles concerning teaching and research problems desired; those of historical nature are acceptable. Articles on timely subjects, e.g., antibiotics, would be of interest.

Constitution

Proposed changes to amend the constitution and by-laws of the Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds were read and discussed. Same will be prepared and mailed to all Guild presidents for consideration before final adoption at the June Executive Board meeting.

It was moved that the president appoint a Finance Committee to devise ways and means to defray expenses of the Federation for various projects, e.g., A.M.A. exhibits, etc. It was moved to add an article to the constitution authorizing a per capita assessment to each Guild's annual dues.

New Business

As a further project, Dr. A. Gambaccia of St. Agnes Hospital, Philadelphia, urged missionary vision to follow the Federation's first twenty-five years of organization and focus on medical education. It was proposed that the Federation form a council or conference whose prime work will be to raise the standards of medical education and the medical profession as a whole.

Meeting adjourned

2:30 p.m.