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Austrian Physicians on Postage Stamps

Catholic Physicians' Guild

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The Guild in Argentine

Approved by the Archbishop of Buenos Aires in 1929, the Guild of Catholic Doctors in the capital of the Argentine now has over 200 members in that city, about 180 in Cordova and some 20 in Rosario and in Santa Fe. Through its influence similar societies were organized in Uruguay and in Chile; in both countries the position of the Catholic Doctors has been consolidated thereby. The Guild publishes *Iatria*.

Recently, 180 of the members at Buenos Aires took a modified form of Laennec's oath for physicians in the presence of Cardinal Copello, after he had read the Mass for the Guild on the "Doctors' Day"—the feast of St. Luke. It was to this organization the First Aid arrangements of the Eucharistic Congress, conducted in Buenos Aires in 1934, were entrusted. — (From *Central Blatt and Social Justice*, Sept., 1939.)

Austrian Physicians on Postage Stamps

The Austrian series of "physicians' stamps" was issued during 1937 and was designated as the "welfare series." These postage stamps give, among others, a picture of Gerhard van Swieten (1700–1772), who as personal physician of the Empress Maria Theresa introduced in Vienna for the training of young physicians instruction at the bedside in place of the study of books. Another stamp had Leopold van Auenbrugger (1722–1809), to whom science is indebted for a knowledge of percussion. His discovery was forgotten, however, and was later again "discovered" by Skoda. The next one shows Karl von Rokitansky, the founder of modern pathologic anatomy (1804–1878), whose five-volume textbook of anatomy became the foundation of scientific investigation in medicine. Then there is Joseph Skoda (1805–1887), the originator of physical methods of

examination. In addition to percussion, introduced by Auenbrugger, he introduced auscultation. The next postage stamp is dedicated to Ferdinand von Hebra (1816–1880), who gained worldwide renown as a reformer of dermatology. The ophthalmologist Ferdinand von Arlt (1812–1887), who did so much for surgery and diagnosis of the eye, has likewise been commemorated; then there was a postage stamp showing Joseph Hyrtl, the universal anatomist (1810–1894), whose school in Vienna did pioneering service for all Europe. Then there followed a stamp with Theodor Billroth (1829–1894), founder of modern war surgery and originator of extirpation of the larynx and the stomach. The series closed with Theodor Meynert (1833–1892), psychiatrist and anatomist of the brain, whose researches are still recognized.—*A. M. A. Journal*, July 22, 1939.