

May 1958

President's Page

William J. Egan

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

Recommended Citation

Egan, William J. (1958) "President's Page," *The Linacre Quarterly*: Vol. 25 : No. 2 , Article 1.
Available at: <http://epublications.marquette.edu/lnq/vol25/iss2/1>

President's Page

The Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds "comes of age" at the San Francisco meeting during the A.M.A. convention in June. Through the hapless years of adolescence, only the nurturing by and the strength of The Catholic Hospital Association kept it alive. A few short years ago, there were only twelve (12) Guilds; THE LINACRE QUARTERLY was running a year behind schedule in publication; indebtedness to The Catholic Hospital Association surpassed \$6,000. Father John J. Flanagan, S.J., Executive Director of The Catholic Hospital Association and Mgr. Donald A. McGowan, Director of Health and Hospitals of N.C.W.C. inherited the cadaveric vestige of an idealistic dream of physicians united in Catholic Action. These two wonderful priests — amazing in their contrasting personalities and inspiring in their unified pursuit of "Good Medicine is Good Catholic Action" — have effected a miraculous convalescence.

This organization now has a roster of seventy-three (73) affiliated Guilds representing thirty-one (31) States, Puerto Rico, and Canada. It has liaison with many more Guilds not at present affiliated. The membership of physicians has now reached the five-thousand (5,000) mark. THE LINACRE QUARTERLY is approaching a distribution of ten thousand (10,000) copies per issue to doctors, priests, libraries, hospitals and others in the health field. This journal is being quoted constantly for authoritative Catholic thought — and most recently, in a new text-book on *Artificial Insemination* by Schellen. This author devotes a page to the Catholic medical opinion as stated by the Executive Board of the Federation in June and reported in the August, 1952 issue. The booth in Exhibition Hall at each A.M.A. convention proclaims "What your Catholic patient believes!" and is staffed by members of the Executive Board and the various Guilds. The response to this booth project has been a most edifying and elevating experience to each doctor who has serviced it during the convention days. Annually, a "Catholic Physician of the Year" is honored. The Thomas Linacre Award is also presented for the best article contributed by a physician.

Through all the executive meetings that have effected this growth and activity, Msgr. McGowan and Father Flanagan, with his devoted executive secretaries, Mr. Ray Kneiff and Miss Jean Read, have been at the right shoulder of your officers to counsel, to aid, to encourage. This year, however, our guardian angels are flying East while we are flying West. The Catholic Hospital Association, of necessity, is meeting in Atlantic City the same week that the Federation is meeting in San Francisco. So, for the first time, the Executive Board will meet without its Moderator and central office staff. How well it does will depend entirely on the number of Guilds having delegate representation.

In this era of Catholic Action — and that your Federation may continue to play an important part in the promotion of Catholic thought in medicine — I urge you to send a delegate from your Guild to San Francisco for the Executive Board meeting on June 25.

WILLIAM J. EGAN, M. D.