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President's Page

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President's Page

The summer meeting of the National Federation held the 23rd marked the half-way mark of our term of office. We are very grateful to the officers, the Regional Directors and the chairmen of the major committees for their sacrifice in traveling long distances and for their valued contributions in the many important areas of discussion. The Federation is grateful to the Most Reverend Joseph M. Pernicone, Auxiliary to His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, celebrant of our annual Memorial Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral and to the Most Reverend Joseph Brunini, Auxiliary Bishop of St. P. Atchchez-Jackson, our Episcopal Advisor, for their participation in a successful meeting. Francis J. Braceland, M.D., Sc.D. F.A.C.P., delivered the first annual Father Gerald Kelly, S.J. Lecture and his address appears in this issue.

In looking forward to the next half-year, our most important event is the second annual seminar to be held at the Palmer House Hotel in Chicago, November 5 and 6. The theme will be "The Medical Care of the Family" including adolescence, the aged, and the role of the family physician. Drs. Harold Haley and Fred Taylor have scheduled a most timely program with excellent and authoritative speakers. A unique feature will be a live trans-Atlantic Conference between the Physicians' Guild of St. Louis, S.S. Cosmas and Damian of London and the National Federation on this so broad subject.

We would like at this time to welcome the San Francisco Catholic Physicians' Guild to membership in the National Federation. Affiliation took place in June. This fine group is urged, along with all member Guilds, to actively engage in projects for local and national welfare. Committees should be working with the National organization in many vital areas that need cooperation and support. Such programs as the Health Care of Religious, Medical Missions, Family Life (especially Cana) and the implementation of rhythm clinics are some of the most urgent.

I wish to mention specifically the work of Dr. Thomas Hayes and the Family Life Committee. This group is actively supporting the Family Life Bureau of N.C.W.C. on fundamental research studies of reproductive physiology. The major pharmaceutical houses are helpful and cooperative. We are looking forward to another symposium sponsored jointly by the N.F.C.P.G. and the Family Life Bureau in October 1965.

Finally, your officers, and myself, extend best wishes for a healthy and happy vacation. Relax and enjoy yourself and be sure to plan now for participation in our Fall meeting.

GERARD P. J. GRIFFIN, M.D.