

2-1-1953

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### Recommended Citation

Stackhouse, W. J. (1953) "Book Review of *My Way of Life: Pocket Edition of St. Thomas, The Summa Simplified for Everyone*, by Walter Farrell, and Martin J. Healy," *The Linacre Quarterly*: Vol. 20 : No. 1 , Article 6.  
Available at: <https://epublications.marquette.edu/lnq/vol20/iss1/6>

# Book Review

## My Way of Life

POCKET EDITION OF ST. THOMAS

THE SUMMA SIMPLIFIED FOR EVERYONE

WALTER FARRELL, O.P., S.T.M., AND MARTIN J. HEALY, S.T.D.

Review by W. J. STACKHOUSE, S.J.

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**M**EMBERS of the Catholic Physicians' Guilds should find this little book enjoyable and profitable reading. It is rightly called a pocket edition—it measures about three by five inches—and its format is excellent.

But good and worthwhile as it is, the book scarcely merits its claim to be a pocket edition of St. Thomas Aquinas' *Summa Theologica*. It is not a translation of St. Thomas' work nor a collection of translated passages taken from that work.

*My Way of Life* was written by the late Walter Farrell, O.P., and Martin Healy, S.T.D., not by St. Thomas Aquinas, and, although both authors undoubtedly based their writings on those of St. Thomas, their book, as a simplification "meant for everyman," necessarily lacks the profundity and insight which makes the *Summa* of St. Thomas a masterpiece. *My Way of Life* does, however, deal with the same subject matter as the *Summa* and follows the three parts of the *Summa* in its treatment of that subject matter. The first part, written by Father Farrell is entitled "God and His Creatures;" the second and third parts, written by Father Healy, are entitled "Happiness" and "The God-Man."

Both men are able writers. Father Farrell's style is always attractive and often sprightly; Father Healy's exposition is clear and concise. His chapters on the virtues of faith, hope, and charity are remarkably well done.

To the Catholic laity, especially, this book offers abundant material for important reading and meditation. It may even lead many of them to "the more excellent way" of the *Summa* itself.

### MY WAY OF LIFE

published by Confraternity of the Precious Blood, Brooklyn  
1952, pp. VI and 630, \$1.35

## REPORT OF MID-WINTER MEETING OF THE FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC PHYSICIANS' GUILDS

The mid-winter Executive Board meeting of The Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds was held in St. Louis, Missouri, January 17, 1952 at Hotel Sheraton. The Officers attending were: William P. Chester, M.D., Detroit, President; William J. Egan, M.D., Boston, 3rd Vice-President; Daniel L. Sexton, M.D., St. Louis, Treasurer; Rt. Rev., Msgr. Donald A. McGowan, Washington, D. C., Moderator; M. R. Kneifl, St. Louis, Executive Secretary, and Rev. John J. Flanagan, S. J., St. Louis, Editor, *Linacre Quarterly*. Members of the Board present were: Paul R. Hinchey, M.D., Boston; A. W. Shea, M.D., Minneapolis; G. O. Broun, M.D., St. Louis. J. F. Gross, M.D., of the Omaha Guild was unavoidably detained enroute due to inclement weather.

Minutes of the June 11, 1952 regular meeting of the Federation held in Chicago were read and approved on motion of Dr. Egan, seconded by Msgr. McGowan.

First order of business was discussion of affiliation with the International Catholic Physicians' group. A letter from Rev. George Paris, St. Mary of Redford Parish, Detroit, Michigan, to Dr. Chester revealed information that the International Federation is most anxious to have the American Catholic physicians become a part of their united front in worldwide Catholic Action. Full details on this are to be secured for later reporting. It was the recommendation of those present that the project be carefully explored to consider joining.

The question of financial aid to Catholic medical schools was again discussed as has been suggested by Dr. Gross who could not attend the meeting. An editorial from the *Philadelphia Catholic Standard and Times* sent to Dr. Chester from Dr. Toland was read, deploring the small percentage of Catholic students enrolled in the local medical school, paralleling the same condition elsewhere. Dr. Shea reported on the living endowment fund the Minneapolis Guild is creating to sponsor a medical student each year. Dr. Broun also mentioned the living endowment fund of St. Louis University.

In the interest of financial aid, it was proposed that the officers of the Federation investigate the possibility of forming an honorary group with appropriate title, each member of which would be invited to send a definite sum each month for financial aid to Catholic medical schools.

Following this, St. Luke's Day, October 18, was discussed. Each Guild would have its own activity. On the national level, it was suggested by Father Flanagan that the Catholic Hour Radio Program be explored, since October 18 is on Sunday this year. Msgr. McGowan will make the proper contacts. Another suggestion was to contact Rev. Eugene Murphy, S. J., Director of The Sacred Heart Radio Program, with its many station outlets, to permit us the facilities of his program for that occasion. This possibility will be investigated also. Further detail will be given in *Linacre Quarterly*.

The group present was reminded that election of Officers for the Federation occurs at the June meeting. The Nominating Committee will be appointed by the Board, but the individual Guilds will be urged to make recommendations for this committee and suggestions for officers.

Discussion next concerned the June meeting of the Executive Board and luncheon program. It will be held at Hotel Commodore, New York City, on June 3. The Board meeting will be held at 9:30 a.m. and the luncheon for all Catholic doctors is scheduled for 12:30. General arrangements will be taken care of by the central office of the Federation at 1438 S. Grand Blvd., St. Louis 4, Mo.

For the Membership Report, it was recorded that the following Guilds are in good standing:

Boston	Detroit	Sacramento
Bronx	Denver	St. Louis
Brooklyn	Minneapolis	New Bedford
Buffalo	New Orleans	Sioux City
Cleveland	Omaha	Sioux Falls
Calgary, Alberta, Can.	Philadelphia	Wilmington

Guilds not affiliated are: Los Angeles, Dayton and Baton Rouge. Dr. Chester will follow up the matter of their affiliation.

Msgr. McGowan reported the following as groups in process: Arlington, Va. (The Richmond Guild), Pittsburgh, Penna., and Baltimore, Md. Portland, Oregon, Seattle, Washington and Oakland, California are also interested.

It was explained that the Central Office follows up inquiries about the formation of Guilds, sending promotion material, but that further impetus is needed from the President and the advice of successful groups now functioning.

The report for *Linacre Quarterly* was presented by Father Flanagan. The circulation of the journal as of January 1953 is approximately 4,400. Difficulty still exists in obtaining articles. The assistance of the Boston Guild through the efforts of Dr. Egan and the Medico-Moral Notes of Rev. Gerald Kelly, S. J., were reported to be the mainstay of publication. Guild news items are not forthcoming as readily as they should be.

The Financial Statement was approved on the motion of Dr. Egan, seconded by Dr. Broun. It is published as Appendix A to this report.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p. m.