

COS417/16.5

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[For the Hebdomadal Council only.]

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*Report of the Medical Committee.*

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THE REGIUS PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE attended the Meetings of the Committee.

Provision has now been made for giving instruction to Members of the University in all the subjects of the First Examination in Medicine, namely, in Anatomy, Physiology, Organic Chemistry and Materia Medica, in accordance with the Regulations of the Board of the Faculty of Medicine.

Although the time occupied by Candidates in preparing for this Examination is not limited by any Regulation, Students of Medicine usually offer themselves for it within a year after having passed the Examinations for the Degree of B.A.

During the period which intervenes between the two Examinations, Students devote themselves chiefly to the study of Human Anatomy. They are advised also to attend the Radcliffe Infirmary in order that they may acquire some acquaintance with the simpler manifestations of disease, it being found that the knowledge thus obtained is of great value to them as introductory to the more serious studies on which they have to enter in some one of the great London Hospitals, after passing the First Examination.

The instruction required for this purpose relates not so much to the treatment of sick persons, as to the external aspects of disease—the signs or symptoms by which the presence of disorder is recognized and its nature determined. It is of the utmost importance that the instruction given should be

[P. T. O.]

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*tutorial*, and that, on the one hand, the Student should have the opportunity of observing for himself, while on the other, the comfort of the patients whose ailments are made the subject of study should not be interfered with.

The Lichfield Endowment seems to have been intended to supply such clinical instruction as has been above described. Although the University is empowered by the Commissioners' Statute to regulate the qualifications and duties of the Teacher and the mode of his appointment, without reference to any other body, it is obvious that this could not be done otherwise than with the co-operation of the members of the Staff of the Radcliffe Infirmary. This co-operation would probably be best secured by committing the selection and appointment of Lichfield Lecturer to a Board of Electors of which a Physician and a Surgeon to the Infirmary should be members.

The above suggestions could be best carried into effect by substituting, in any new Statute to take the place of the one passed in 1883, for the paragraphs 2, 3, 4 and 5, others to the following effect:

(2) A Clinical Lecturer shall be appointed for a term of three years, but shall be capable of reappointment for a second similar period.

(3) The Lecturer shall be required to give elementary clinical instruction in the Radcliffe Infirmary, in accordance with Regulations to be made for his guidance by the Board of the Faculty of Medicine.

(4) If and so long as the Hebdomadal Council shall be allowed to nominate four of its members to be associated with the Electoral Board appointed by the Governors for the election of the Physicians and Surgeons of the Radcliffe Infirmary, the Lecturer shall be elected by a Board of Electors of whom two shall be either the Senior Physician and Senior Surgeon of the Radcliffe Infirmary, or an Honorary Physician and an Honorary Surgeon to the Infirmary elected by the Honorary Medical Staff. The other Members of the Board shall be the Regius Professor of Medicine of the

University of Oxford, the representative of the University on the General Medical Council, and a person appointed by the Hebdomadal Council. In case the Regius Professor should be the representative of the University on the General Medical Council, then the fifth member shall be the Professor of Human Anatomy.

(5) The Lecturer shall receive the Income of the Trust Fund.

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Stated more in detail the duties of the Clinical Lecturer would be—

1. To give elementary instruction in the Wards of the Radcliffe Infirmary on the signs and symptoms of disease under the direction of the Physicians and Surgeons.

2. To conduct the *post mortem* Examinations, and to give instruction on the morbid appearances observed after death.

3. To conduct clinical investigations in the 'Clinical Laboratory' of the Radcliffe Infirmary with a view to giving instruction relating to them.

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The Committee desire the consent of Council to an attempt to secure the co-operation of the authorities of the Infirmary, and especially of the Honorary Staff, in carrying out the above suggestions, and that it would be well for Council not to proceed with the consideration of this Report till the views of the Infirmary Authorities and Staff have been ascertained.