

See p 2.

July 30 1914

CUS417/118.11 '15

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
(Private and Confidential)

WAR EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

Meeting, Friday, July 30th, 1914 at the Offices of the
British Medical Association, 429, Strand, London
W.C. at 11.30 a.m.

A G E N D A.

1. Receive: Following notice of appointment of,
and reference to, the Committee by the Annual Representative
Meeting, 1915:-

Minute 37. 1. That a War Emergency Com-
mittee be appointed for the Session 1915-16.

2. That it consist of the
four ex-officio members, four members elect-
ed by the Council from their own number, four
members elected by the Representatives pres-
ent in the Representative Meeting, and four other
members elected in the same way who shall,
themselves be Representatives.

3. That it shall have power
to co-opt not more than six other members repre-
sentative of Universities, Colleges and other
Medical Bodies.

4. That the reference to the
Committee be:- To organise the Medical Pro-
fession in England, Wales and Ireland in such
a way as will enable the Government to
use every Medical Practitioner fit to serve the
country in such a manner as to turn his qualifi-
cations to the best possible use; to deal
with all matters affecting the Medical
Profession arising in connection with the War;
and to report to the Council.

The following are the members of the Committee
appointed:-

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|---|-----------------------------------|
| Sir Alex. Ogston, K.C.V.O., M.D., LL.D.,
Aberdeen, (President). | } ex-
officio
Mem-
bers, |
| Mr. E.B. Turner, 21, Westbourne Terrace,
Hyde Park, W. (Chairman of
Representative Meetings.) | |

Dr. J.A. Macdonald, LL.D., 19, East Street,
Taunton, (Chairman of Council.) } Ex-
Dr. Edwin Rayner, 19, ¹iviot Dale, Stockport. } officio
(Treasurer). } Mem-
bers.

Major J. Galloway, 54, Harley Street, W. }
Lieut.-Col. R.A. Bolam, 3, Queens Square, } Appoint-
Newcastle-on-Tyne. } ed by
Mr. N. Bishop Harman, 108, Harley Street, W. } Council
Lieut.-Col. Sir James Barr, M.D., LL.D., }
72, Rodney Street, Liverpool. }

Sir William Osler, Bart., M.D., F.R.S., 13, }
Norham Gardens, Oxford. }
Sir T. Clifford Allbutt, K.C.B., M.D., F.R.S. } Appoint-
"St. Radegunds", Chaucer Road, } ed by
Cambridge. } Representa-
Dr. A.E. Shipley, Master of Christs College, } tive
Cambridge. } Body.
Mr. T. Jenner Verrall, LL.D., The Briars, }
Entry Hill, Bath. }
Dr. C. Buttar, 41, Inverness Terrace, W. }
Major Russell Coombe, 5, Barnfield Cres- }
cent, Exeter. }
Capt. W.J. Greer, 19, Gold Tops, Newport, }
Mon. }
Major Albert Lucas, 9, Easy Row, Birmingham. }

2. Appoint: Chairman.
3. Confirm: Minutes of late Special Committee of
Chairmen of Standing Committees of (i) June 11th, 1915
(Doc. 35) and (ii) July 22nd, 1915, (Doc. 39).
4. Receive: Apologies for absence.

- 5. Receive: Report by Chairman that the Council at its meeting on June 30th, 1915, approved the Quarterly Report of the late Special Committee of Chairmen of Standing Committees, and gave instructions for representations to be made to the War Office urging the claim of Dr. Yolland for some recognition of his services in connection with the Voluntary Aid Movement in Kent. (This question is dealt with in par. ⁸ of Doc 2 - Correspondence).
- 6. Read: Correspondence. (Doc. 2).
- 7. Consider: Reply (if received) from the War Office to letter sent pursuant to Minute 99 of the meeting of the late Special Committee of Chairmen of Standing Committees of May 17th 1915.
- 8. Receive: Report as to action taken pursuant to instructions of the meeting of June 11th of the late Special Committee of Chairmen of Standing Committees as to the compilation of a War Register of the medical profession.
- 9. Consider: Question of co-opting 6 members.
- 10. Consider: Reference to Committee contained in above Minute 37 of the Annual Representative Meeting, 1915.
- 11. Consider: Following Minutes of the Annual Representative Meeting, 1915, referred by the Chairman of Council and Chairman of Representative Meetings to the Committee:-

Minute 32. That the Council take every step possible in order to obtain favourable consideration by the Govern-

ment of the question dealt with in para.9 (Suppl. July 3rd p.8) of communication sent to the Director-General Army Medical Service, dated 26th May, 1915.

(para.9 above referred to): Financial Considerations.

9. Very many representations have been made to the Committee to the effect that practitioners who would have been glad to offer themselves for commissions are unable to do so on account of their financial commitments as regards their practices or their families. In the case of the younger practitioners who are not established in practice the remuneration offered by the War Office is probably sufficient to protect them from any financial loss, but the case is quite otherwise as regards the men who have been for some years established in practice. Many suggestions have been made to the Committee on this point which have resolved themselves into proposals either to raise the remuneration or to increase the gratuity at the end of service. On this subject Colonel Blenkinsop placed before the Committee certain considerations which have led it to the conclusion that it cannot at the present moment press either of the above mentioned suggestions. But the Committee feels that it must place on record its conviction that financial considerations of very varied kinds are preventing many experienced practitioners from offering their services to the War Office, and that an increase in the remuneration offered to such practitioners would be justifiable, and will be necessary if it is really desired to secure their services. The Committee believes that if the Government could see its way to grant extra pay or gratuity to cover what to many practitioners would be a considerable loss of income or capital, such action would to a considerable extent solve the present difficulty of securing medical officers.

Minute 33. The following Rider by Dr. Major Greenwood, seconded by Mr. J.V.C. Denning, was WITHDRAWN on the understanding that it would be considered by the Council: and referred to the appropriate Committee:-

(1) That in all cases where military duties are discharged by institutional Medical Officers the Salaries paid to such Officers should, if giving whole-time service, be on a scale not less than that paid by the War Office to members of the R.A.M.C.

(2) That where the duties are part-time only, an addition should be made to the Medical Officer's salary in proportion to the extra labour involved.

Minute 39.- Resolved: That the Representative Meeting requests the Council to consider the advisability of raising a Medical Fund for the purpose of helping those practitioners who have been serving their country as Medical Officers of

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the Army or Navy, and also of helping the dependants of such practitioners, if necessary, and gives the Council power to act.

12. Any other business.