

3

SPECIAL CALL MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
Sir Walter Hotel, Raleigh, North Carolina

February 27th, 1955

- - - -

The Board of Medical Examiners of the State of North Carolina convened at 10 A. M. for a special meeting called by Dr. Amos N. Johnson, President. The following members were present: Drs. Amos N. Johnson, President, Joseph J. Combs, Secretary-Treasurer, L. Randolph Doffermyre, Clyde R. Hedrick, Gibbons Westbrook Murphy, Heyward C. Thompson, and Mrs. Louise J. McNeill, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer. Dr. Newsom P. Battle was absent because of illness. The former member of the board, Dr. James P. Rousseau, President-Elect of the Medical Society of the State of North Carolina, was invited to be present.

This meeting was called for the purpose of discussing the foreign graduate of non-approved medical schools in this state for postgraduate training.

RE: Revision of Policies and Regulations - The secretary advised that the policies and regulations of the board now on file in the Office of the Secretary of State have been revised; that since citizenship is now a prerequisite for medical licensure, the revised policies should be filed as early as practical. The board studied the revisions made by the secretary.

VERDICT: Dr. Clyde R. Hedrick moved that the policies be approved and filed with the Office of the Secretary of State after approval of the attorney for the board. This motion was duly seconded by Dr. L. R. Doffermyre and passed unanimously.

RE: Report of Examination Failures to the American Medical Association - The secretary advised that the two failures on the written examination in June, 1954 were not reported to the American Medical Association and the same has been requested. That this was not done due to the fact that Dr. John L. Bobo failed and died just prior to receiving notice of failure.

VERDICT: Dr. G. Westbrook Murphy moved that the board not report the name of John L. Bobo, as having failed the written examination with the explanation that it is being withheld because he died before he knew that he had failed and this is done to protect his family; that the name of the name of the other failure be reported. This motion was duly seconded by Dr. H. C. Thompson and passed unanimously.

RE: Graduates of Foreign Non-Approved Medical Schools - The president stated that the secretary had been to the meeting of the Federation of State Medical Boards and suggested that he brief the board on the foreign graduate situation. The secretary thereupon advised that a Co-Operating Committee from the various interested organizations has been endeavoring for a year to work out an arrangement whereby a graduate of a foreign medical school may be screened as to education and other pertinent factors before leaving his country, and then to be screened again in this country, this to be done on a national level. That after this year the Council on Medical Education of the American Medical Association will not publish further lists of approved foreign medical schools. That at the Federation meeting it was moved to approved the same in principle and asked that the committee proceed to implement the program. That under this program it in no way implies that the individual may be licensed in any state; that it will only serve in an advisory capacity.

The secretary informed the board that at the meeting of the Executive Council of the State Medical Society on January 30th, President-Elect J. P. Rousseau had placed on the agenda for discussion equitable distribution of internes and residents. That this brought on a discussion with reference to discrimination of the board allowing postgraduate foreign exchange students from non-approved foreign medical schools to go to the teaching institutions and not to approved non-teaching hospitals. The following is motion passed by the Executive Council at this meeting:

5

Dr. Koonce: Could I make a motion, Mr. President, that this Council go on record as requesting that the board give equal consideration to all approved hospitals for foreign residents? This is simple enough. Don't limit it to teaching institutions. Let all accredited, approved hospitals have the same consideration. This motion was seconded by Dr. London. The motion is carried.

The meeting was adjourned.

2:30 P. M.

The deans of the medical schools, their assistants, the officers of the State Medical Society and the members of the committee by the Executive Council were invited to meet with the board. Dr. W. C. Davison, dean, and Dr. Kenneth Penrod, Assistant Dean, of Duke University School of Medicine; Dr. C. C. Carpenter, Dean of Bowman Gray School of Medicine; Dr. F. D. Lawrason, Assistant Dean of the University of North Carolina School of Medicine; Dr. J. P. Rousseau, President-Elect, and Mr. James T. Barnes, Executive Secretary of the State Medical Society; and members of the committee, Drs. Donald B. Koonce, Arthur H. London and George W. Paschal, were present.

A round table discussion was held with reference to the policy of the board allowing postgraduate foreign exchange students to go to the teaching institutions only. Dr. Rousseau advised that his purpose in bringing up the distribution of house officers at the meeting of the Executive Council was in an effort to get the medical schools, the State Medical Society and non-teaching approved hospitals to discuss the problem of inequitable distribution of house officers. He stated that at this time the postgraduate foreign exchange student was brought up. He said the teaching institutions have an adequate number of approved graduates on the house staff and the foreign graduate does not take the same responsibility for patient care as in the non-teaching hospital.

Drs. Koonce, London and Paschal stated they thought it was a discrimination to allow postgraduate foreign exchange students to go to the teaching but not to the non-teaching institutions.

The secretary stated that the board did not feel it should take away the privilege of training foreign graduates to return to their countries to practice medicine. He explained the program on a national level to implement a program for classifying the education of foreign graduates. Dr. Johnson discussed what has been defined as discrimination by the general hospital and the teaching institutions with reference to the fact that the postgraduate student applies for training at the teaching institution and is solicited by advertisement to go to the non-teaching institution and was perhaps influenced by the salary; that this brings in a different type of physician. That the postgraduate student is sent to the teaching institution for the purpose of teaching and not for looking after the citizens.

The deans indicated an interest in working out a rotating internship for medical students, whereby they would return to the teaching institution for residency training.

A discussion was had with reference to the foreign graduate being selected by the medical school and then being sent under its supervision to the approved non-teaching hospitals. Dr. Davison stated that this would be satisfactory with him; that the one difficulty is to get them to return to their native country.

Following this meeting, the board went into executive session and the following motion was passed:

VERDICT: Dr. G. Westbrook Murphy moved that the secretary be requested to notify the James Walker Memorial Hospital that since it had

not followed the regulations of the board in selecting the present internes as reported by the hospital, no consideration could be given to issuing a special limited license for any of this group to remain there another year. This motion was duly seconded by Dr. Clyde R. Hedrick and passed unanimously.

The secretary was instructed to inform the hospitals about the selection of internes which we have been operating on and that no change is planned by the board.

Signed Joseph J. Combs M. D.  
JOSEPH J. COMBS  
Secretary-Treasurer