

RALEIGH, N. C. - SIR WALTER HOTEL - JUNE 10, 1935, 9:00 A. M.
REGULAR ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

The meeting was called to order by President Ben. F. Royal of Morehead City. The entire membership was present. Dr. Ben Royal, Dr. K. G. Averitt, Fayetteville, Dr. F. Webb Griffith Asheville, Dr. Hamilton W. McKay Charlotte, Dr. William H. Smith, Goldsboro, Dr. James W. Vernon Morganton, and Dr. Ben. J. Lawrence, Secretary, Raleigh, N. C. The minutes and proceedings of the previous meeting of last December through the Pinehurst meeting were read and approved upon a motion by Dr. McKay and seconded by Dr. Smith and carried unanimously. There was a motion by Dr. Griffith and seconded by Dr. McKay that since Dr. S. I. Coleman had not completed his credentials that further action on his application be withheld. This motion was carried.

At this point the Board proceeded to review the credentials of the various candidates. The credentials of the following candidates were found to be satisfactory and they were granted a license to practice medicine and surgery in North Carolina. Via:

Dr. Frank Elmore Wilson	Memphis, Tenn.
Dr. John Abb Payne, 3rd	Sunberry, N. C.
Dr. James Rudy Morrison	Washington, D. C.
Dr. William Jesse Lancaster	Wilmington, N. C.
Dr. William Belmer Sigmund	Asheville, N. C.
Dr. Kenneth D. Dickinson	Brooklyn, N. Y.
Dr. Douglas Blair Kendrick, Jr.	Topton, N. C.
Dr. Samuel Crawford Gillespie, Jr.	Asheville, N. C.
Dr. Edward Lee Gilbert	Winston-Salem, N. C.
Dr. George Henry Epstein	New York City, N. Y.
Dr. Roy William Kirchberg	Ravensford, N. C.
Dr. Harry Miller	Murphy, N. C.
Dr. Peter Emrey Huth	Philadelphia, Pa.
Dr. George Edwin Bradford	Winston-Salem, N. C.
Dr. Allen Charles Winter	Mulberry, Fla.
Dr. Alexander Nelson Shoun	Winston-Salem, N. C.
Dr. Joseph Andrew Oliver	Huntersville, N. C.
Dr. William McNeal Nicholson	Baltimore, Md.
Dr. Micheal Dallas Massengill, Jr.	Blountville, Tenn.
Dr. William Henry Kelly	Durham, N. C.
Dr. Phil Minnis Sherrill	Coaldale, Pa.
Dr. Irving Isadore Shure	Conetoe, N. C.
Dr. William Leonidas Smith	Durham, N. C.

There were four candidates who had not completed their credentials. Dr. Lewis S. Patton was examined. There was a motion by Dr. McKay and seconded by Dr. Vernon that his license be held up pending further investigation by Dr. F. Webb Griffith. And that after such investigation and if found to be satisfactory when so certified by Dr. Griffith in writing to the Secretary, Dr. Patton be issued his license. Dr. Griffith reports investigation of Patton reveals that his record is satisfactory.

Dr. Bonner Miller of Raleigh was interviewed. She had lost her M. D. degree from the University of Virginia but she was properly certified by the Dean. She did not have her National Board certificate. She was asked to secure duplicates of each and to present them to the Secretary at his office in Raleigh and whenas and if she complies with this order, the Secretary was instructed to issue Dr. Miller a license.

The Board then interviewed the credentials of Dr. Hartley Edward Boorum of Blowing Rock, N. C. formerly of Florida and New York. Dr. Boorum's application was not on file and no investigation had been made. There was a motion by Dr. Smith and seconded by Dr. McKay and carried that the Secretary should further investigate this party's credentials. And that if as and when such investigation was completed and if the credentials of the said candidate were found to be satisfactory to the Secretary, that he then be vested with the authority to issue a license to Dr. H. E. Boorum. But that his license be held up pending completion of such investigation. Motion carried.

Dr. John W. Williams was then examined. He was a very courteous and polite colored Physician. His credentials were in order with the single exception that he did not actually have his Georgia license with him. There was a motion by Dr. McKay and seconded by Dr. Vernon that he be granted a license subject to the completion of his credentials. Credentials completed and approved.



At this point Dr. C. F. Harris of Ansonville, N. C. came before the Board upon a previous order of the Board. After a brief examination, there was a motion by Dr. McKay, seconded by each member of the Board and carried to the effect that upon the evidence in hand and for reasons satisfactory to the Board, we do hereby dismiss the consideration of the case of Dr. C. F. Harris.

Dr. William H. Harrell of Creswell, N. C. appeared before the Board upon an order of the Secretary following instructions given him at the December meeting. Dr. Harrell had been tried and convicted of violating the Narcotic Act. Suspended sentence had been given him. He had taken treatment in a Sanatorium. The Board through its President, remonstrated with Dr. Harrell and warned him of the danger to himself and to the Profession and to his patients. After a brief conference action in the above case was postponed for the time being.

The Secretary then stated that Dr. J. W. Duguid whose case had been mentioned at the December meeting had since died in Leavenworth Prison and that his brother, Dr. J. A. Duguid according to information believed by the Secretary to be correct, was still in Leavenworth. Thereupon consideration of his case was postponed.

At this point the President called the attention of the Board to the action taken at Pinehurst regarding the consideration of graduates of certain irregular schools teaching such courses as homeopathy. He stated that the Secretary had complied with the agreement given him at Pinehurst and had succeeded in having one such probably candidate withdraw his application from the Secretary's files, and in view of that the case was not actually pending. However, in view of certain occurrences and a request from one or two members of the Board the matter perhaps ought to be discussed. There was a rather free and full round table discussion of the matter. The discussion was participated in by each member of the Board. It soon became apparent that there was quite a wide difference of opinion between the Board members as to the wisdom or the lack of wisdom of re-opening the matter, and there was also a difference of opinion as to the merit or lack of merit of certain schools giving irregular courses such as homeopathy, eclectic and the like, in spite of the fact that some such schools may be rated satisfactory by rating Bureaus outside of our own State. There were those of the opinion that we should recognize the rating of certain Bureaus, especially the A. M. A. There was evidence produced and opinions expressed that we ought not to be bound by such rating wholly without our State, but that we should stand upon the merit of each individual case and form our own rating. While the discussion was at its peak it was noticed that the lunch hour was fast passing. Thereupon the President suggested that he would not permit or advise us to adjourn until the question was passed upon. However, certain members felt that a more lengthy conference should be had. A motion to recess for lunch and register the candidates for examination during the afternoon prevailed.

2:30 P. M. June 10th, 1935. Candidates for examination were registered during the afternoon. And the Board recessed again without further consideration of the above controversy.

Signed

B. J. Lawrence
Ben. J. Lawrence, M. D. P. A. C. S.
Secretary-Treasurer

June 12th - Noon Sir Walter Hotel. Board reconvened at the call of the President. Six members of the Board, namely; Dr. Ben F. Royal, President, Dr. K. G. Averitt, Dr. Hamilton W. McKay, Dr. William H. Smith, Dr. James W. Vernon, and Dr. Ben. J. Lawrence were present. Dr. F. Webb Griffith was not present.

There was a motion by Dr. McKay and seconded by Dr. Averitt that we rescind the resolution passed at Morehead City July 21, 1934 relating to licensing of candidates between meetings, and that President Royal appoint a committee to draft a new resolution to be presented at the Morehead City meeting July 1935. This motion was carried.

President Royal appointed Doctors, Smith, Vernon and Lawrence. The resolution has been prepared.

Dr. McKay made a motion that we reconsider the matter acted on at Pinehurst, via. certain schools giving irregular courses, such as homeopathy, and the like. In order that we may consider each applicant upon his credentials individually. This was seconded by Dr. Vernon. There was no discussion. President Royal put the motion. Doctors McKay,



Smith, Vernon, and Averitt voted for the motion. Dr. Lawrence voted "No". The motion therefore prevailed.

Then Dr. Smith made a motion that President Royal appoint a committee of two to study the above question and report at the July meeting or at any date after within the discretion of the committee and that the Board bear the expense of the same. Dr. Lawrence offered an amendment to the above to the effect that the committee be composed of three instead of two and that the committee report at the December meeting or later at its discretion. Dr. Smith accepted the first part of the suggestion, namely; that the committee be composed of three members. He asked that the time of the report be made in a separate amendment. His motion would therefore read "President Royal to appoint a committee of three to study the question of the wisdom or lack of wisdom of granting graduates of schools giving such irregular courses as homeopathy, eclectic, etc. permission to take our Board, and that the committee report at its July meeting or later, and the Board to pay expenses of the committee". Then Dr. Lawrence seconded Dr. Smith's motion with the following amendment, namely; "Amend by adding that the word July be stricken out and add in lieu thereof to report not earlier than December or later at the discretion of the committee". The question was then opened for discussion, via. Dr. Smith's motion as seconded and amended by Dr. Lawrence. The discussion centered primarily around the amendment and the President ruled that the amendment should be voted on first.

Dr. McKay opened the discussion by stating that three or four hundred dollars which might be earned in six months time was an item now and asked why Dr. Lawrence wanted action postponed. Dr. Vernon asked in different phraseology practically the same question, namely: why Dr. Lawrence wanted to postpone the matter. At this point Dr. Smith stated that it appeared to him that Dr. Davidson's action in going to each member of the Board over the head of the Secretary, especially what Dr. Davidson said to President Royal, was to his mind clear evidence that he (Davidson) was evidently doubting the validity of Dr. Lawrence's spoken word or that he was doubting the authority upon which the Secretary was acting, or that he was attempting to create dissention in our Board, and that he could very easily see why Dr. Lawrence resented such action. To this President Royal assented. At this point the Secretary undertook to answer the question as to why he wanted action postponed to a later date and thus his amendment. The Secretary's discussion, "You see gentlemen, this matter has grown to be one of concern to me for the reason that in a sense I am on trial. Each of you understand because of actual knowledge and on account of previous discussions how the question arose and how the matter was taken up at the Pinehurst meeting. I asked for instructions as how to act, and having obtained that definite and specific instructions I acted upon it. And I would naturally be pleased if the Board could see fit to stand by that action". He recognized the right and the proper right of the Board to change its opinion; but in order to save the face of the group as an Official Board and in order to save his face as an individual, he thought it would be more desirable and for the best interest of all parties concerned if the matter were deferred until a sufficient and reasonable time might elapse to justify the change in procedure". That in brief was the answer as to why the Secretary wanted the matter postponed until December or later. Dr. Vernon could not agree with all of the above view as set forth by the Secretary. However, he expressed a desire to assure the Secretary of his willingness and his determination to stand by him when acting in his official capacity as the executive officer of the Board. At this point Dr. McKay expressed the same feeling, assuring the Secretary of his desire and determination to stand by him in his official conduct and suggested that perhaps Dr. Davidson should be asked to appear before the Board and explain his action. The Secretary then thanked doctors Vernon and McKay for their kind words and asked them to withhold such a motion for the present.

At this point Dr. Averitt entered the discussion and stated that he agreed with the above discussion and that he favored a later date for the committee report. He quoted further from recent parts of a conversation with Dr. Thurman Kitchin in the presence of other members of the Board to the effect, that when the question of licensing graduates of Hahnemann came up, Dr. Averitt asked President Kitchin the following question "Dr. Kitchin you have to place each year a large number of medical students in the Junior Class of other medical schools,"



Dr. Kitchin answered, "Yes certainly". Then Dr. Averitt said "Dr. Kitchin regardless of any rating which outside Boards may give Hahnemann, would you place or permit one of your students (to say nothing of your own boy) to go to Hahnemann for his third or fourth years in medicine." Whereupon Dr. Kitchin replied, "Emphatically No". Dr. Averitt felt and expressed the opinion that in view of this positive statement by President Kitchin of facts and in view of the circumstance surrounding the above question that he doubted if he would ever be willing to give graduates of such a school a license in this State. At this point the question was called, via. Dr. Lawrence's amendment to Dr. Smith's motion --carried unanimously, all members voting in the affirmative. Then the question reverted to Dr. Smith's motion as amended - via. "The President to appoint a committee of three to study the entire question of the wisdom or lack of wisdom of permitting graduates of schools giving such irregular courses as homeopathy, and the like to take our Board. The Board to pay expenses of the investigation and the committee to report not earlier than the December meeting or at a later date at its discretion". President Royal put the motion as amended and the same was carried unanimously.

There was a motion by Dr. McKay, seconded by Dr. Averitt that our President write Dean Davidson of Duke (Motion carried) expressing the complete confidence of the Board in its Secretary and make known to Dr. Davidson that the Board did not look with favor upon its efforts to create discord in its ranks.

There was a motion by Dr. Vernon seconded by Dr. McKay that we elect Dr. F. Webb Griffith President for next year. Motion was carried. At this point Dr. Smith polled the votes of the Board as to the meeting place and time. A majority seemed to favor Morehead City, July 20th, 9:00 A. M. Atlantic Beach Hotel. Motion was carried.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT: President Royal appointed Doctors Smith, Vernon and Lawrence as a special committee to investigate the wisdom or lack of wisdom of permitting graduates of certain schools giving certain irregular courses taking our Board. This appointment and committee to act under authority of above resolution.

There being no further business the Board adjourned to meet July 20th, 9:00 A. M. Atlantic Beach Hotel, Morehead City, N. C.

Signed

B. J. Lawrence
Ben. J. Lawrence, M. D. F. A. C. S.
Secretary-Treasurer.

FURTHER SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT: Dr. Griffith reports that Dr. Patton's record is clear. Therefore his credentials are completed and approved. Dr. McKay reports that he has investigated Dr. William Joseph Oliver and finds his credentials to be satisfactory. These gentlemen's credentials are therefore approved along with our other graduates without further examination. Dr. Bonner Miller was instructed to present her M. D. degree and her National Board Certificate as soon as she received a duplicate. She has already presented her diploma from the University of Virginia and the Secretary has inspected the same. She has not yet presented her National Board Certificate for inspection. Acting under the above instruction her license will be held up until she has complied with the above instructions. Dr. John W. Williams has complied with the order of the Board and has presented his Georgia license to the Secretary at his office for his inspection. His credentials are therefore complete and he will receive his license without further delay.

Under a motion in the above minutes, the Secretary was to further investigate Dr. Hartley Edward Boorum. You will recall that he did not have his application filed, that he has floated from New York to Florida and from Florida to North Carolina, and is now asking for a license to practice in the western part of our State, while vacationing in the mountains of western North Carolina during the summer. The Secretary has written to several people about this gentleman. He asked the incoming President to write to his friends in New York about this man. I presume Dr. Griffith has not received any information about the party. I have received letters from Mrs. Cannon and Mrs. Charles Lee Smith, who spoke very highly of Dr. Boorum. I have received other information from sources that I believe to be correct, that this man merely floats in



there during the summer and wants a license in this state in order to pick up some practice of some of the wealthy individuals vacationing in Blowing Rock. Further, that such a state of affairs might work a hardship on the local doctor in Blowing Rock. The Secretary has written the A. M. A. for information on this man. Other than the data which is contained in the Directory, I have not received anything on him. I have asked Dr. Cutter to give me further information. Upon the strength of this information, I would therefore ask that this applicant be asked to re-appear at the December meeting if he cares to at which time the entire Board may take action upon his application.

Signed

Ben. J. Lawrence
Ben. J. Lawrence, M. D. F. A. C. S.
Secretary- Treasurer.



