

Continued

Dr. ROGERS suggested that the consideration of this matter should be postponed till the next board meeting.

Dr. CURTIS seconded, and thought it would be almost as well to postpone consideration of the subject until after the arrival of the new doctors from London.

Mr. LYONS confessed that this communication seemed to make matters further involved. It not only did not bring them nearer a settlement, but in his opinion it was widening the breach. The consideration of the matter should certainly be deferred, unless it was referred to a committee.

The motion was carried.

#### EXTRA PROBATIONERS.

The Secretary reported that the recommendation of the board that two more probationers should be appointed had been forwarded to the Government, and the Chief Secretary had sent the following minute:—"Returned to the chairman of the board. Has the number of patients increased, or what is the necessity for appointing extra nurses. Shall be glad of further information."

Mr. LYONS thought the minute was not particularly courteous to the board. At the last meeting it was considered that the facts warranted the board in making the recommendation.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK said the reply should be that the necessities of the hospital required the appointments.

Mr. LYONS moved that a reply should be forwarded stating that at the last meeting of the board it was decided to make the recommendation because the extra nurses were required.

Dr. ROGERS thought the Government might be supplied with particulars.

Mrs. NICHOLLS said the matter came before the medical superintendent, the house committee, and the board, and the recommendation was endorsed in each case. The nursing staff was not sufficient to work the wards properly when there happened to be any nurses away through illness or on holiday, and two more were required. The expense would be small. If the nurses were overworked they could not perform their duties properly. The patients must be attended to, and the extra nurses in question should be provided.

The CHAIRMAN said the superintendent of the hospital as well as the superintendent of nurses, the house committee, and the board all agreed that the extra nurses were necessary, and he thought the Government ought to adopt the recommendation.

Mr. LYONS said if every small matter like this was to be referred back to the board some members who gave their time to the work of the board would be inclined to consider whether their time was being profitably spent. In this case the whole of the ground had been traversed, and as the board considered the additions necessary that ought to be ample.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK agreed with the other members of the house committee, Mr. Lyons and Mrs. Nicholls. It was clear that the recommendation was made because it was thought to be necessary, and that was the only

reply that could be sent to the Government.  
The motion was carried.

ACCOMMODATION FOR RESIDENT MEDICAL  
OFFICERS.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK said Dr. Hill a few days ago had invited him as chairman of the house committee to look over the institution with a view of finding what available accommodation there would be for the two gentlemen who were coming from London. They had concluded that there was not sufficient accommodation there. He thought it would be better to wait till the gentlemen in question arrived so that they might be consulted.

It was decided to refer the matter to a committee, consisting of the mayor, Dr. Rogers, and Mr. Lyons.

*Continued*

THE BOARD AND THE SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

In reply to a communication from the secretary, the Superintendent of Public Buildings wrote—"That it is part of the special construction not to have any access from the front loggia into ground; there are more reasons than one for this railing not being provided with a gate."

Mrs. NICHOLLS did not think the answer at all satisfactory. The medical superintendent had called attention to the matter and said the patients could not get out without great difficulty. The superintendent of nurses also approved the making of the gate. The board should be informed of the reasons mentioned by the Superintendent of Public Buildings. If they knew them they might then see their force.

Mr. COOMBS thought that before discussing the merits or demerits of the question it would be more satisfactory for them to inspect the site of the proposed alteration. He did not think the board should sit calmly down and allow the Superintendent of Public Buildings to dictate to them.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK agreed with Mrs. Nicholls that the Superintendent of Public Buildings should be asked to favor them with his reasons. He would move that the letter be received and that the secretary be asked to write to the Superintendent of Public Buildings asking him to be kind enough to give the board the benefit of his knowledge and the reasons referred to.

Mr. LYONS seconded.

Mr. COOMBS did not feel disposed to play second fiddle to Mr. Smyth in connection with this matter.

Mr. LYONS did not see how they would be playing second fiddle to Mr. Smyth by asking him for the reasons.

The motion was carried.

LETTERS OF THANKS.

Mr. T. Moriarty wrote expressing "heartfelt gratitude to the doctors and nurses who attended his afflicted and long-suffering wife while she was under their tender care."

Mr. R. Baker wrote to the house surgeon:—

I feel I cannot leave the hospital without some expression of my grateful thanks to yourself and staff for the wonderful way you have brought me through a most severe attack of pneumonia. I feel quite confident that although I am still very weak my life was saved by your skilful treatment and the constant attendance and good nursing of Nurse Graham. I am not in a position to contribute towards the institution, but I am proud to acknowledge my thanks, which I trust you will accept.

Mr. George Jeffery, under date June 19, also wrote:—

I beg through you to tender my sincere thanks to the medical staff, and also to the nurses, for their very great kindness and persevering attention towards my sister, Sarah Ann Williams, during her stay at the hospital, and also for the courtesy shown in allowing friends to remain by her at all times, day or night, during her illness. Although the disease proved fatal, I am perfectly satisfied that everything possible was done by the medical staff and nurses to relieve her sufferings during the whole time she was there, for which services please accept the united thanks of myself and friends.

MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

The medical superintendent's report for the

two weeks ended June 25 showed:—Patients admitted, 60; discharged, 65; died, 9; now in hospital, 178; outpatients treated, 590, of whom 102 were new. Causes of death:—Pneumonia, miliary tuberculosis, carcinoma of œsophagus, tubercular meningitis, dysentery, peritonitis, fracture cervical spine, carcinoma uteri. Fifteen cases of typhoid fever in the institution.

---