

SUMMARY OF THE REPORT OF THE REGISTRATION COMMITTEE AND THE ACTION OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS THEREON, JANUARY 11, 1936

*Prepared by Kathryn Root at the request of the Secretary*

The Registration Committee reported that registration and re-registration are progressing satisfactorily. New registrants in 1935 are 58, with more coming in. Re-registered to date, 477 with more coming daily.

The committee stated that inasmuch as they have received no list of schools accredited by the A. M. A. it has been impossible to put into effect the resolution passed at St. Louis on October 2, 1935, which closed the Register to all but graduates of schools approved by that body. Registration is therefore proceeding under the plan published in the 1935 Directory.

This was accepted by the Board as inevitable.

In view of the fact that is now known that it will be a long time before the A. M. A. list is published the committee recommended that the following be the basis for registration for the present:

"Any therapist who graduated from a school which maintained standards that were acceptable to the A. O. T. A. at the time the student was in training, who has continued in active O. T. service and who meets the requirements as to general education, etc., is eligible for registration."

This was voted.

The committee presented ten applications for registration on which they asked advice from the Board:

Two were appeals from adverse decisions of the committee.

The committee asked the Board whether they would under any circumstances make an exception to the present ruling and grant registration to persons of exceptionally fine qualification on the basis of experience only.

The Board voted that they would not.

The remaining eight cases hinge on the status of several schools. The committee reported that they are constantly receiving new

data about war, pioneer and discontinued schools which modify their opinion of their worth. They have been most punctilious in keeping to the exact letter of the rules laid down by the Board, but in order to facilitate their work they believe that some one should be empowered to make minor technical adjustments not involving matters of importance without waiting for a vote of the entire Board. They therefore asked permission to make such adjustments for good reason and with the approval of the President.

This was granted.

There are other applications where a decision depends upon the recognition of a school which has never been rated at all or whose status is debatable. On these the committee asked for advice. Since an intelligent decision would require more time and study than is possible in a Board meeting it was voted to empower Miss Harriet Robeson to review the papers and act with the committee with the authority of the Board.

The committee offered several recommendations on the procedure to be followed when the Register is closed to all but graduates of schools approved by the A. M. A., but in view of the indefinite postponement of the date when this will occur a decision was deemed unnecessary and no action was taken.

The committee stated that it feels strongly that there will always be excellent non-graduate therapists for whom registration should be made possible—either by special courses or a system of credits for study and experience accumulated over several years (as teachers, etc., build up credits for college degrees) or by examination and demonstration to test professional ability, technical skill and personal fitness to practice occupational therapy. They recommended that the intention to establish some such ways of qualifying for registration be announced at the earliest possible date.

Due to lack of time and pressure of matters of more immediate importance this subject was not discussed.

The report was accepted and the recommendations acted upon separately.