

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FEDERAL COUNCIL OF THE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA, HELD AT DURBAN ON 11, 12 AND 13 SEPTEMBER 1957

Following are the Minutes of a Meeting of the Federal Council of the Medical Association of South Africa, held at B.E.S.L. Hall, Old Fort Road, Durban, on 11, 12 and 13 September 1957.

Present:

Border Branch: Dr. J. K. McCabe, Dr. R. Schaffer.

Cape Midlands Branch: Dr. A. P. Albert, Dr. L. E. Lane, Dr. R. A. Moore-Dyke.

Cape Western Branch: Dr. J. C. Coetzee, Mr. J. A. Currie, Dr. J. S. du Toit, Dr. M. Helman, Mr. J. D. Joubert, Mr. T. B.

McMurray, Mr. J. A. S. Marr, Dr. P. F. Oats, Dr. A. G. Paterson, Dr. J. H. L. Shapiro, Dr. A. W. S. Sichel, Dr. L. Slabbert, Dr. A. A. Zabow.

East Rand Branch: Mr. D. E. Mackenzie, Dr. M. Segal, Dr. E. W. Turton.

Griqualand West Branch: Mr. N. Kretzmar.

Natal Coastal Branch: Dr. A. Broomberg, Dr. S. Disler, Dr. H. Grant-Whyte, Dr. N. A. Rossitter, Mr. A. G. Sweetapple, Dr. A. B. Taylor.

Natal Inland Branch: Mr. B. A. Armitage, Dr. T. H. Whitsitt.

Northern Transvaal Branch: Dr. J. H. Casewell, Dr. C. M. Grundlingh, Dr. J. H. Struthers, Dr. W. Waks, Dr. F. Ziady.

O.F.S. and Basutoland Branch: Dr. F. Hagen, Dr. D. Serfontein, Dr. R. Theron, Dr. G. F. C. Troskie.

Southern Transvaal Branch: Dr. C. Adler, Dr. A. L. Agranat, Dr. N. E. C. de la Hunt, Mr. W. Girdwood, Dr. J. Gluckman, Dr. S. C. Heymann, Dr. H. Penn, Dr. T. Radloff, Dr. L. S. Robertson, Dr. T. Schneider, Dr. M. Shapiro, Dr. L. O. Vercueil, Mr. J. Wolfowitz.

South-West Africa Branch: Dr. W. E. K. Loening.

Vaal River Branch: Dr. W. Chapman.

In Attendance: Dr. A. H. Tonkin (Secretary), Dr. L. M. Marchand (Associate Secretary), Dr. P. D. Combrink (Assistant Secretary, Transvaal).

Observer: Dr. T. Shadick Higgins (Editor).

WEDNESDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER

The Secretary declared the meeting open at 10.20 a.m. and, reminding members that this was the first meeting of a new triennium, he invited nominations for the post of temporary Chairman. It was proposed by Dr. Sichel, seconded by Dr. Broomberg, that Dr. Schaffer be temporary Chairman. There were no other nominations and Dr. Schaffer was declared elected and took the Chair.

1. *Notice Convening the Meeting*, published in the *Journal* of 3 August 1957, was taken as read.

2. *Proxies and Apologies:* The Secretary announced Proxies as follows: Dr. W. E. K. Loening to act for Dr. W. H. G. Kuschke; Dr. A. H. Tonkin to act for Dr. A. Landau; Dr. J. S. du Toit to act for Dr. J. H. Domisse; Dr. R. A. Moore-Dyke to act for Dr. M. A. Robertson.

Apologies were noted from Dr. L. L. Alexander, Dr. A. Landau, Dr. M. A. Robertson and Dr. L. R. L. Solomon.

A telegram of good wishes from the President and members of the East Rand Branch was also read and noted.

3. *Introduction of New Members:* Dr. Schaffer asked that senior members of the Branches introduce new members of Council.

Dr. Sichel introduced Drs. J. C. Coetzee, M. Helman, P. F. Oates, A. G. Paterson, J. H. L. Shapiro, L. Slabbert and A. A. Zabow, representing the Cape Western Branch. Dr. Agranat introduced Mr. W. Girdwood and Drs. N. E. C. de la Hunt and H. Penn, representing the Southern Transvaal Branch. Dr. Struthers introduced Drs. J. H. Casewell and C. M. Grundlingh, representing the Northern Transvaal Branch. Dr. Grant-Whyte introduced Mr. A. G. Sweetapple, representing the Natal Coastal Branch. Dr. Theron introduced Dr. F. Hagen, representing the O.F.S. and Basutoland Branch. Mr. Armitage introduced Dr. T. H. Whitsitt, representing the Natal Inland Branch. Dr. Turton introduced Mr. D. E. Mackenzie, representing the East Rand Branch. Dr. Lane introduced Drs. A. P. Albert and R. A. Moore-Dyke, representing the Cape Midlands Branch. Dr. Schaffer introduced Dr. J. K. McCabe representing the Border Branch, Mr. N. Kretzmar representing the Griqualand West Branch, and Dr. W. E. K. Loening representing the South-West Africa Branch.

4. *Election of Chairman of Council:* Dr. Schaffer called for nominations.

Dr. Sichel said that it gave him great pleasure to propose Dr. Struthers to be Chairman of Council. This was seconded by Dr. Schneider. There were no other nominations, and Dr. Schaffer declared Dr. Struthers to be duly elected. He referred to the service which Dr. Struthers had rendered to the Association during the past years, and congratulated him on his appointment. *Acclamation.* Dr. Sichel then invested Dr. Struthers with the badge of office.

In reply, Dr. Struthers thanked the members for the confidence shown in him, and referred particularly to Dr. Sichel whom he had succeeded in office, and the many years which Dr. Sichel had devoted to the service of the Association, and especially to the last twelve years during which he had served as Chairman of Council.

Dr. Grant-Whyte as President, and Dr. J. S. du Toit as immediate Past President of the Association, both spoke of the work done by Dr. Sichel and the high regard in which he was held by all. At the conclusion of his address, Dr. du Toit called

for a vote of thanks to Dr. Sichel, which was *Carried* by members rising amid *Acclamation*.

5. *Gift from the British Medical Association:* Dr. Struthers referred to the recent visit of Dr. Wand, the Chairman of Council of the British Medical Association, and to the gift which he had brought from that Association in the form of a gavel and block carved from a mulberry tree which stood in the grounds of B.M.A. House which had been built on the site of the home and garden of the author Charles Dickens. He asked Dr. Sichel to report further in regard to this matter.

Dr. Sichel stated that he had received the gavel from Dr. Wand on behalf of the Association and had expressed to him the Association's appreciation of this gesture of goodwill.

Dr. Sichel went on to thank the President and the immediate Past President for their kind remarks, and in expressing his thanks he particularly mentioned the work which Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie had done in remaining on Federal Council in the role of immediate Past Chairman of Council for a period of twelve years in spite of illness and a desire for rest. He praised Dr. Pirie's diligence and loyalty, and proposed that a vote of thanks be passed to him. This was seconded by Dr. Gluckman and *Carried with Acclamation*.

6. *Election of Vice-Chairman of Council:* The Chairman called for nominations for this position.

Mr. McMurray proposed Dr. Turton and was seconded by Dr. Ziady.

Dr. M. Shapiro proposed Dr. Schaffer and was seconded by Mr. Wolfowitz. Dr. Schaffer said that he would allow his name to stand, but he would prefer Dr. Turton to be elected.

A ballot vote was taken, Drs. Lewis Robertson and Combrink acting as scrutineers. As the result of the count, the Chairman announced that Dr. Turton had been elected Vice-Chairman of Council. *Acclamation.*

Dr. Turton expressed thanks for the confidence shown by Council in electing him as Vice-Chairman and said that he hoped he would be able to carry out his duties and assist the Chairman as far as possible.

7. *Election of Vice-President/President-Elect:* Dr. M. Shapiro proposed Dr. Schaffer and was seconded by Mr. Sweetapple. There were no other nominations and Dr. Schaffer was declared elected, amid *Acclamation*.

Dr. Schaffer thanked the Council for the honour bestowed on him, which he felt was also an honour to his Branch.

8. *Appointment of Honorary Treasurer:* The Chairman called for nominations.

Dr. du Toit proposed Mr. Joubert and was seconded by Mr. Armitage. There were no other nominations and Mr. Joubert was declared elected, amid *Acclamation*.

9. *Appointment of Secretary of Council:* Dr. Vercueil proposed Dr. Tonkin and was seconded by Dr. Gluckman. It was *Agreed with Acclamation* that Dr. Tonkin continue as Secretary of Council.

10. *Election of Executive Committee:* Council was reminded that it was usual that not more than three members of the Executive Committee be elected from any one Branch, and that in addition to the five ex officio members of the Committee, five were to be elected.

The nominations received were as follows: Mr. Currie was proposed by Dr. Sichel, seconded by Mr. McMurray; Dr. M. Shapiro was proposed by Dr. Gluckman, seconded by Mr. Wolfowitz; Mr. Armitage was proposed by Dr. Disler, seconded by Dr. Whitsitt; Dr. Ziady was proposed by Dr. Waks, seconded by Dr. Casewell; Dr. Broomberg was proposed by Dr. Rossiter, seconded by Dr. Disler; Dr. L. S. Robertson was proposed by Dr. Agranat, seconded by Dr. Vercueil; Dr. Schaffer was proposed by Dr. Sichel, seconded by Dr. Struthers; Dr. Theron was proposed by Dr. Sichel, seconded by Dr. Troskie; Mr. Sweetapple was proposed by Mr. McMurray, seconded by Mr. Marr.

A ballot vote was taken, Mr. McMurray and Dr. Combrink acting as scrutineers.

During the count, the Chairman announced that certain additional Annexures to the Agenda had been tabled and that as they had not been scrutinized by the Executive Committee, permission was sought from Council for them to be handed out. The relevant papers were: (a) a memorandum from the General Practitioners' Group for information only; (b) a memorandum concerning negotiations between the Mines Benefit Society and the Southern Transvaal Branch; (c) a memorandum on the forth-

coming conference concerning ophthalmologists and optometrists which had apparently emanated from the Transvaal Sub-Group of the Ophthalmological Society. Council *Agreed* that the papers be distributed.

The Chairman stated that the ballot vote had resulted in Mr. Currie, Dr. Robertson, Dr. Schaffer and Dr. Theron being elected to the Executive Committee, and that there had been a tie between Dr. M. Shapiro and Mr. Armitage. A further ballot vote was taken. As a result of this vote, the Chairman declared Mr. Armitage to be elected. *Acclamation.*

11. *Election of Federal Ethical Committee:* The relevant By-Law was read and the Chairman called for nominations.

Dr. Schneider was proposed by Dr. Robertson, seconded by Dr. Vercueil; Dr. Robertson was proposed by Dr. Agranat, seconded by Dr. Gluckman; Dr. Broomberg was proposed by Dr. Rossiter, seconded by Mr. Armitage; Dr. Sichel was proposed by Dr. Theron, seconded by Dr. Vercueil; Dr. Lane was proposed by Dr. Robertson, seconded by Dr. Schaffer; Dr. J. H. L. Shapiro was proposed by Dr. Zabow, seconded by Dr. Slabbert; Dr. Troskie was proposed by Mr. Currie, seconded by Dr. Hagen. Dr. Robertson asked permission to withdraw his name. *Agreed.*

As the result of a ballot vote, the Chairman declared that Drs. Broomberg, Lane, Schneider, Sichel and Troskie were elected. This was *Noted with Acclamation.*

12. *Election of Central Committee for Contract Practice:* The Chairman explained the method of election of this Committee which had been decided by Council two years previously, whereby the individual Branches, through their Federal Councillors, nominated members to this Committee on a proportionate basis.

Dr. Sichel announced that the Cape Western Branch members nominated Mr. McMurray, Dr. J. H. L. Shapiro, Dr. Zabow and Dr. Paterson; Dr. Agranat stated that the Southern Transvaal Branch members nominated Mr. Girdwood, Dr. Vercueil, Dr. L. S. Robertson and Dr. Gluckman; Dr. Taylor stated that the Natal Coastal Branch nominated Dr. Broomberg and Dr. Rossiter; Dr. Ziady announced that the Northern Transvaal Branch nominated Dr. Casewell and Dr. Lawrence; Dr. Schaffer announced that the Border Branch members nominated Dr. Alexander; Dr. Theron stated that the O.F.S. and Basutoland Branch members nominated Dr. Serfontein; Dr. Turton announced that the East Rand Branch members nominated Mr. Mackenzie; Dr. Lane stated that the Cape Midlands Branch members nominated Dr. Albert. The Chairman pointed out that the smaller Branches were entitled to three representatives, and he suggested that one of these be appointed from the Vaal River Branch. Council then *Agreed* that Dr. Chapman be nominated as the representative of the Vaal River Branch. Only one other nomination, that of Mr. N. Kretzmar, was received.

The Chairman then announced that the persons nominated as above were declared elected and that no ballot vote would be necessary.

Dr. Sichel suggested that the Committees which had been elected should meet during the sessions of Federal Council in order to elect their own Chairmen. Council *Agreed.*

13. *Election of Parliamentary Committee:* The Chairman asked whether Council would agree that the Committee be composed as before, of the Executive Committee members in the Transvaal together with the Federal Council members in Pretoria.

Dr. Sichel pointed out that during the Parliamentary Session it was usual for the Executive Committee members in Cape Town to act on behalf of the Committee, should any representations have to be made to Parliament.

It was proposed by Mr. Wolfowitz, seconded by Dr. Waks, that an additional member of the Southern Transvaal Branch and of the East Rand Branch be elected to the Committee. On being put to the vote, this was *Lost* by 21 votes to 23.

It was then proposed by Dr. Sichel, and Council *Agreed*, that the Committee be elected as before. The members of the Parliamentary Committee are thus Dr. J. H. Struthers, Dr. E. W. Turton, Dr. L. S. Robertson, with Dr. J. H. Casewell, Dr. C. M. Grundlingh, Dr. W. H. Lawrence, Dr. W. Waks and Dr. F. Ziady.

14. *Minutes of the Meeting held in Johannesburg on 27, 28 and 29 March 1957,* were *Confirmed and Signed*, on the proposal of Dr. Gluckman, seconded by Dr. Agranat.

15. *Honours:* As a matter of urgency, it was requested that consideration be given at this stage to the award of certain honours, in order that the names of the recipients of awards

might be published in the programme for the Opening Ceremony of Congress and the Adjourned Annual General Meeting of the Association. Council *Agreed.*

The Secretary referred to the Rules for the award of the Bronze Medal, stating that not more than four Medals could be awarded in any one year. He pointed out that two had been awarded at the last meeting of Federal Council in March 1957, and that four nominations had been received for consideration at the present meeting.

Citations were then read in regard to the work and service of Dr. R. Schaffer, Dr. A. Broomberg, Dr. L. O. Vercueil and Dr. R. Theron. After the reading of each citation, a ballot vote was taken. Finally the Chairman announced that Council had *Agreed* in each case to the award of the Bronze Medal of the Association for meritorious service. *Acclamation.*

Discussion followed regarding a decision as to which two should receive the immediate award of the Bronze Medal. It was proposed by Dr. Gluckman, seconded by Mr. Wolfowitz, that this be decided by ballot vote. An amendment was proposed by Dr. Sichel, seconded by Mr. McMurray, that the persons concerned should draw lots. On being put to the vote, the amendment was *Carried.*

As the result of the draw, the Chairman announced that Dr. A. Broomberg and Dr. R. Theron would receive the Bronze Medal in 1957, and Dr. R. Schaffer and Dr. L. O. Vercueil would receive it in 1958. *Noted.*

16. *Emeritus Membership:* The Secretary reported that two recommendations for this honour had been received, namely, Dr. J. Drummond of Durban and Dr. C. Martiny of Johannesburg.

The Secretary read the citation in respect of Dr. Drummond and Council *Agreed Unanimously* that he be elected to Emeritus Membership.

The Secretary stated that no citation had been received for Dr. Martiny, but he read a letter of recommendation which had been submitted by the Southern Transvaal Branch. Council *Agreed* that Dr. Martiny be elected to Emeritus Membership.

Matters Arising out of the Minutes:

17. *Visit of Dr. T. C. Routley:* The Secretary reported that Dr. and Mrs. Routley had arrived in the Union and had already attended a number of meetings in various Branches while on their way to Durban. Council noted that Dr. Routley would deliver the Public Address on the Sunday evening preceding Congress and would be present at a number of Congress functions, until the following Wednesday when he would leave for Johannesburg and Pretoria before proceeding to Istanbul to attend meetings of the World Medical Association.

It was reported that the Executive Committee had agreed to recommend to Council that Dr. Routley be asked to convey the greetings and good wishes of the Medical Association of South Africa to the World Medical Association on the occasion of the General Assembly in Istanbul, and had expressed the hope that Dr. Routley might be able to give the Assembly some impressions of his visit to the Union. Council *Agreed.*

As no member of the Association was to attend the Assembly to represent the Association on this occasion, it was proposed by Dr. Turton, seconded by Dr. Sichel, that Dr. Routley be asked to represent the Medical Association of South Africa. Council *Agreed.*

Council adjourned for lunch from 1.5 p.m. to 2.15 p.m.

MINES BENEFIT SOCIETY

18. *Mines Benefit Society:* The Chairman stated that five representatives of the Mines Benefit Society were present to present their case regarding appointments to the Society. A memorandum on this subject, prepared by the Society, had been circulated, and a report which had been prepared regarding the work of the Liaison Committee representing the Branches in which the Mines Benefit Society operated, had been submitted. He asked Dr. Agranat, as Chairman of the Liaison Committee, to present his Report.

Dr. Agranat amplified the Report and stated finally that an impasse had been reached in negotiations and that the whole matter had been referred to Council. The Society had asked that the appointments in the specialities of orthopaedics, gynaeco-

logy and urology be allowed to continue as temporary appointments while negotiations proceeded, at least until 31 October 1957. To this the Committee had agreed. It had also agreed that representatives of the Mines Benefit Society should be given the opportunity to present their case to the Federal Council.

The delegation from the Mines Benefit Society was then admitted and welcomed by the Chairman. The members of the delegation were introduced to Council by Dr. L. Adler, and they were Mr. Kops (Chairman), Mr. McIver (member of the Executive Committee), Mr. Semmens (Chairman of the Action Committee) and Mr. Knox (General Secretary of the Society).

Mr. Kops referred to a memorandum which had been presented to Federal Council a year previously and which had been redistributed to members of the new Council. He referred also to a memorandum which had recently been prepared and which contained observations on the present position of the Society and its medical staffing. Mr. Kops went on to explain the first part of the new memorandum, and was followed by Mr. McIver and Mr. Semmens who also made comments and gave detailed explanations.

At the conclusion of the addresses, the Chairman invited members to ask questions of the deputation. A number of questions were asked and answers were given.

The Chairman then called on Mr. Kops to add the final points of the discussion. This Mr. Kops did, and he thanked the Council also for receiving the deputation. *Acclamation.* The Chairman replied suitably to Mr. Kops.

Before the deputation left, Dr. Sichel asked whether the Mines Benefit Society would be willing to form a Liaison Committee with the Association. Mr. Kops replied that the Society would prefer to deal with the Association through the Mines Benefit Societies Medical Officers' Group, but that if this was not possible it would be glad to deal with any other Committee suggested by the Association, rather than with any one Branch.

The deputation left the meeting at 4.50 p.m.

The Chairman stated that the matters which had been placed before the meeting were of the highest importance and he suggested that Council meet during the evening and that the evening session be devoted to further discussion on this subject. Council *Agreed.*

19. *Amendment of Article 9:* The Secretary reported that the Executive Committee had considered the lawyer's letter contained in Annexures to the Agenda and had decided to recommend to Council that the opinion of the lawyers be accepted and that they be instructed to make all such consequential amendments to the Constitution as might be necessary.

It was proposed by Dr. M. Shapiro, seconded by Dr. Sichel and *Resolved Nem Con.* that the recommendation of the Executive Committee be accepted.

In reply to a question from Dr. Gluckman, the Secretary stated that the amendment to the Article would only become effective after it had been passed by an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Association and had been registered by the Registrar of Companies. *Noted.*

20. *Registration of Specialists—Recognition of Special Departments in Approved Hospitals:* A letter from the S.A. Medical and Dental Council was submitted.

The Secretary reported that the Executive Committee had agreed to recommend to Council that the matter be referred back to the Medical Council with the request that that Council receive a deputation from the Association in order to discuss the whole question; further, that it be left to the Parliamentary Committee to organize the deputation, with possibly a member from the Cape Midlands Branch and the Orange Free State and Basutoland Branch. Council *Agreed.*

21. *Ophthalmologists and Optometrists:* The Secretary stated that the Executive Committee had agreed to recommend to Council that three additional members of the Ophthalmological Society, to be nominated at the Society's Annual General Meeting, be recognized as the Association's representatives to the proposed conference convened by the S.A. Medical and Dental Council.

Considerable discussion followed and an amendment was proposed by Dr. Adler, seconded by Mr. Girdwood, that the proposed Medical Council conference be postponed.

When put to the vote, the amendment was *Lost.* The recommendation of the Executive Committee was then put to the vote and *Carried.*

22. *Legal Defence—Full-time Medical Personnel:* The Chair-

man referred to a letter contained in the Annexures to the Agenda, addressed to the Secretary of the Central Health Services and Hospitals Coordinating Council, and to an acknowledgment which had been received stating that the matter was receiving attention.

Council *Agreed* that the correspondence be *Noted.*

23. *Post-operative Care in Medical Aid Society Cases:* Dr. Segal submitted the Report of his *Ad Hoc* Committee and drew attention to two recommendations which had been made. Dr. Segal then proposed, seconded by Dr. Schaffer (1) That the surgeon should be responsible for all post-operative care, except in very unusual circumstances; and (2) That it would not be unethical for the general practitioner and the surgeon to agree to a fee for these services.

Discussion followed and an amendment was proposed by Mr. Wolfowitz, seconded by Dr. Gluckman, 'That in the event of a surgeon being unable to complete the after-care following an operation, the general practitioner shall render his own account to the patient. In the event of the patient being a Medical Aid patient, the surgeon shall reduce his fee to the Medical Aid Society to allow for the general practitioner to render his own account to the Society'.

A further amendment was proposed by Dr. M. Shapiro, seconded by Mr. Marr, 'That in the event of a surgeon who has operated on a Medical Aid Society patient delegating after-treatment to another practitioner, the surgeon shall be responsible to the other practitioner for his services on the basis of the Medical Aid schedule of fees for visits, special procedures, consultations etc'.

Following further discussion, this second amendment was withdrawn.

Dr. Vercueil reported that he had discussed this question with the Advisory Council of the Medical Aid Societies and had been informed that the Societies would not pay the general practitioner for any visits to a patient after an operation.

As a result, Council *Agreed* to refer this matter to the Central Committee for Contract Practice for advice and action.

24. *Vaal River Branch:* At this stage the President, at the request of the Chairman of Council, presented to Dr. W. Chapman an insignia of office of President of the newly-formed Vaal River Branch.

Dr. Chapman, on behalf of his Branch, accepted the insignia and thanked the President accordingly. *Acclamation.*

25. *Transfer of Durban Medical Faculty:* The Secretary reported that the Executive Committee recommended to Council that arrangements be made to give evidence to the Select Committee or Commission on the Bill if and when it may meet, and that the question of the appointment of a delegation be left to the Chairman of Council. Council *Agreed.*

26. *Reorganization of the Association:* The Chairman informed the meeting that the memorandum submitted in respect of the reorganization of the Association had been prepared by Dr. Sichel, and he thanked Dr. Sichel for the amount of work he had put into the preparation of this comprehensive memorandum.

At the Chairman's invitation, Dr. Sichel amplified the suggestions made in the memorandum.

The Chairman then reported that the Executive Committee had not had time to consider the memorandum in detail. Certain suggestions had been made and it was felt that the question should be thoroughly debated by the Executive Committee before the memorandum was placed before Council for discussion.

Council *Agreed* that the matter be referred back to the Executive Committee for further consideration and report to the next meeting of Council.

27. *Medical Council Enquiries:* The Secretary stated that the Executive Committee had agreed to recommend to Council that the S.A. Medical and Dental Council be requested to set out its views on this subject in writing for the consideration of Council.

The Chairman explained the procedure which had been suggested by the Executive Committee of the Medical Council, and short discussion followed.

Finally, the recommendation of the Executive Committee was put to the vote and *Carried.*

28. *Visiting Lecturers' Trust Fund:* It was proposed by Dr. Grant-Whyte that in view of the present state of the Association's finances, this matter be referred to the Executive Committee for consideration at some later date. Council *Agreed.*

29. *Indigent Litigants:* The Secretary stated that the Executive

Committee had agreed to recommend to Council that the Natal Law Society be advised that if any difficulty be experienced in obtaining medical certificates in cases of litigation undertaken *in forma pauperis*, the matter should be referred to the local Branch of the Association. Council *Agreed*.

30. *Contract Practice in Southern Transvaal Branch Area*: The Chairman informed Council that the question of the Southern Transvaal Branch withdrawing from the Union-wide Tariff contract had been deferred from meeting to meeting for the last two years, and that he considered it unreasonable that this matter should appear indefinitely on the agenda.

Dr. M. Shapiro proposed that it be deferred until the next meeting of Council, as the Branch was dealing with the matter at the moment. He stated, however, that he could not give any assurance that a definite recommendation would be made by the Branch to the next meeting of Council.

Council *Agreed* to defer this question to the next meeting.

31. *Orthopaedic Services to S.A.R. & H. Sick Fund*: The attention of Council was drawn to correspondence and a memorandum which appeared in the Annexures to the Agenda. Attention was particularly directed to paragraph (4) of the memorandum which was apparently in conflict with By-Law 46 of the Association's Constitution.

The Chairman informed Council that the Executive Committee had agreed that a representative of the Orthopaedic Group should be present at the Council meeting when this matter was discussed, and that arrangements had been made for Mr. C. T. Möller to represent the Group at 11 a.m. on Friday 13 September.

In the circumstances Council agreed to defer discussion on this subject until the time stated.

32. *Pathological Laboratory Services*: A letter from the Honorary Secretary of the Pathologists' Group was submitted. The Group requested that Council should discuss and approve the principle that before promulgation by Government Departments of regulations which affect the interests of Groups within the Association, draft regulations should be submitted to the Medical Association of South Africa for consideration and comment by the Groups concerned.

It was proposed by Dr. M. Shapiro, seconded by Dr. Heymann, that the letter be noted. Council *Agreed*.

33. *Reduced Subscriptions for Full-time Medical Personnel*: The Secretary reported on this subject, and Council agreed that the matter be discussed in conjunction with the Financial Statement and in relation to an increased subscription by members of the Association.

34. *Contract Work in Radiology*: A memorandum was submitted from the Radiological Society of South Africa, and the Secretary reported that the Executive Committee had agreed to recommend to Council that this matter be referred to the Central Committee for Contract Practice. Council *Agreed*.

Council adjourned for dinner from 6.10 p.m. to 8.20 p.m.

On resuming, Dr. Turton occupied the Chair.

35. *Mines Benefit Society*: Discussion was resumed on this subject. Dr. Turton drew attention to the Notice of Motion given at the last meeting of Council by Mr. Currie, seconded by Dr. Purcell, 'That the Central Committee for Contract Practice or any other Committee appointed *ad hoc* by the Federal Council, be empowered to negotiate with the Mines Benefit Society an entirely new basis of relationships with the Association'.

Mr. Currie spoke to this motion and then formally proposed it. He was seconded by Dr. Schaffer.

Considerable discussion followed, most members of Council taking part in the discussion. Eventually Mr. Currie said that it seemed to be the general wish of the Council that the Executive Committee of Council should conduct further negotiations with the Mines Benefit Society, and that with the consent of his seconder he was prepared to withdraw his motion. Council *Agreed*.

An amendment to Mr. Currie's proposal, moved by Dr. M. Shapiro and seconded by Mr. Wolfowitz, 'That any future negotiations with the Mines Benefit Society be conducted by the Executive Committee', was then discussed.

Dr. Struthers felt that any decision should be deferred until the Executive Committee had had a chance to consider the matter to see how far it would be able to negotiate as a Committee.

A proposal by Mr. Wolfowitz, seconded by Dr. M. Shapiro, 'That the action of the Liaison Negotiating Committee in relation to Mines Benefit Society specialist appointments is endorsed', was put to the vote and *Carried*.

Notice of Motion was given by Dr. Vereuil, seconded by Dr. Penn, 'That the policy of the open panel for Benefit Societies be reviewed and rescinded, as regards specialists, at the next meeting of Federal Council'. *Noted*.

After further discussion it was suggested by Dr. Sichel that the Executive Committee meet during the lunch interval on the following day, to consider the question of negotiations with the Mines Benefit Society.

Council adjourned at 11.55 p.m.

THURSDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER

Council met at 9.15 a.m. The Chairman, Dr. Struthers, pointed out that Council had met for three long sessions on the previous day, and he appealed to members for their co-operation. He particularly asked that the time limit for speakers should be observed. Council agreed. The Chairman stated that he felt that the form of the Agenda should be followed as far as possible, but he added that the Executive Committee would meet at lunch-time in order to discuss the matters raised on the previous evening in connection with the Mines Benefit Society and a report of their meeting would be made after the lunch interval. *Noted*.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

36. *Report of Executive Committee*: Dr. Sichel presented the Report of this Committee which had been set out in the Annexures to the Agenda. He stated that there had been no meetings of the Committee since the last meeting of Council, but that a number of matters had been dealt with by correspondence. These were as follows:—

37. *Wholesale Prices of Drugs*: The Report stated: 'The Association was informed that the Council for the Pharmaceutical Trade and Industry had passed resolutions at a meeting on 8 May, 1957. These resolutions were designed to reduce the discount normally allowed to doctors from 35% to 10% where a doctor lived within a radius of five miles from a practising chemist. Members of the Committee were invited to express their opinions, which were referred to the Convener of the Sub-Committee for Liaison with the Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa. The Sub-Committee met the representatives of the Council for the Pharmaceutical Trade and Industry, and a further report regarding this meeting will be made at the Federal Council meeting.' *Noted*.

38. *Policy on the Open Panel System*: The Report stated: 'This matter was referred back to the Executive Committee at the last meeting of Federal Council (Minute 46, March 1957) "for instruction as to how this policy can be implemented". Members of the Committee were asked to express their opinions. These opinions were then circulated again to all members of the Committee for a further expression of opinion. The matter is to be discussed at the meeting of the Executive Committee which will be held in Durban, and any recommendations which may be made at that meeting will be made known to Council on the following day.'

The Secretary read the recommendation of the Executive Committee to Council, 'That any decisions on this subject be postponed until the newly-appointed Executive Committee should have an opportunity to consider the question at a meeting to be convened as soon as is convenient'.

After discussion Council *Agreed* that the recommendation of the Executive Committee be accepted.

39. *Advisory Committee to the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner*: The Report stated: 'A letter was received from the Honorary Secretary of the South African Orthopaedic Association, stating that the Orthopaedic Association had been asked to appoint an honorary advisory committee to assist the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner when necessary on matters of principle in the evaluation and assessment of permanent disability. It was stated that consultations with this committee would be on questions of general issue or in specific cases presenting peculiar features. The Executive Committee agreed to sanction the appointment of such a committee.'

Council *Agreed* that the action of the Executive Committee be confirmed.

40. *Cape Clothing Workers' Sick Fund*: The Report stated: 'A request was received from the Cape Western Branch that the Cape Clothing Workers' Sick Fund be allowed to appoint a women gynaecologist on a closed panel basis. The Committee

agreed that in the circumstances this appointment could be allowed.

Short discussion followed, after which Council *Agreed* that the action of the Executive Committee be confirmed.

41. *Orthopaedic Services to S.A.R. & H. Sick Fund:* The Report stated: 'At the last meeting of Council it was agreed that the question of the orthopaedic services rendered to the S.A.R. & H. Sick Fund should be dealt with by the Central Committee for Contract Practice. The Chairman of the Central Committee for Contract Practice brought to the notice of the Executive Committee the fact that the Railways Sick Fund Board would not negotiate with any body other than the Railway Medical Officers' Group. This fact has been made known at Federal Council meetings from time to time. The Executive Committee had no objection to negotiations being undertaken by the Railway Medical Officers' Group, but indicated that it had no power to rescind a resolution of Council. A further letter was received from the Secretary of the Sick Fund, stating that negotiations would only take place after September.'

Council *Agreed* that this be noted and that the matter would be discussed later in the Agenda.

42. *Registration of Optometrists:* The Report stated: 'Members will recall that a memorandum from the Association was presented to the S.A. Medical and Dental Council. Since that time a deputation from the Ophthalmological Association has discussed this question with the Executive Committee of the Medical Council. Eventually the Medical Council decided that a round table conference should take place between representatives of that Council, representatives of the Association and representatives of the Society of Optometrists. This was first to have been held in Pretoria, but later the time and venue were changed to Durban during Congress week. The Executive Committee agreed that the Association's representatives should be Dr. Sichel and Dr. J. S. du Toit. Both these nominees wish Dr. M. Franks, of Johannesburg, to accompany them.'

Council *Noted* that this matter had already been dealt with.

43. *Re-organisation of the Association:* The Report stated: 'This question was submitted to the Chairman of Council for report to the Executive Committee. The Report will be discussed at the meeting of the Executive Committee to be held on 10 September. A copy is included in the Annexures to the Council Agenda.' *Noted.*

It was proposed by Dr. Sichel, seconded by Mr. Joubert and *Resolved* that the Report of the Executive Committee be adopted.

44. *Federal Ethical Committee:* The Secretary stated that the Committee had not met and that there was nothing to report. *Noted.*

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

45. *Financial Statement by Honorary Treasurer:* Mr. Joubert presented his Report and referred members to two documents which had been circulated. He said that in comparing the Estimates for 1957 with the actual state of affairs as found at the end of June, 1957, it had been noted that things were more or less as anticipated. The figures were available if there were any questions.

The Chairman asked Mr. Joubert to state his recommended conclusions.

Mr. Joubert said that he had gone into the possible methods of raising the revenue and of trying to save money. In 1956 the Association had been roughly £3,000 down, and a deficit of £6,980 was estimated for 1957. There was no reason to think that 1958 would be any better. If the subscriptions were raised by £2 2s. 0d., at the end of 1958 the Association would have received £11,550 extra which would then wipe out the accumulated deficit up to the end of 1957 and leave £1,500 to spare at the end of 1958. That did not take into account, however, the fact that if the subscription was not raised by £2 2s. 0d., the Association would be down by a further £7,000 at the end of next year. In other words, said Mr. Joubert, to get back to the state of solvency in which the Association had been in 1955 would take about four or five years at the rate of saving £1,500 a year and making up the deficit of £10,000. The Association also had no assurance that costs would not continue to rise in the immediate future. He pointed out that the realizable assets of the Association amounted to only £19,000 and that if these were to be drained away at the rate of £7,000 a year, insolvency would follow. In the circumstances he could see no alternative but to ask Council to allow the subscription rate to be raised by £2 2s. 0d. per annum as from the beginning

of 1958. He moved accordingly and was seconded by Dr. Turton.

Prolonged discussion followed, during which time an amendment was proposed by Dr. M. Shapiro, seconded by Dr. Adler, that consideration of the increase in the subscription by £2 2s. 0d. be deferred to the next meeting of Council.

After further discussion the amendment was put to the vote and *Lost* by 17 votes to 36.

The proposal by Mr. Joubert, seconded by Dr. Turton, 'That this Council agrees to an increase of £2 2s. 0d. per annum in terms of the Articles of Association and By-Laws', was then put to the vote and *Carried* by 44 votes to 9.

Council *Noted* that this matter would come up for confirmation at the next meeting.

The Chairman then informed Council that a resolution had been tabled, proposed by Dr. Agranat and seconded by Mr. Girdwood, 'That Federal Council should agree to a reduction of 50% in the increased annual levy applying to members in full-time employment. Members qualifying for this reduction should be approved of by Branch Council.'

Discussion followed, and it was pointed out that the amount of subscription paid to the Association by members was not subject to variation. The amount of the subscription payable to Branches did vary from place to place, and it was within the power of a Branch to vary its subscription according to classes of members. In the circumstances the Chairman ruled that the matter was out of order and that no further discussion take place. Council *Agreed.*

Mr. Joubert then moved the adoption of the Financial Report, seconded by Dr. Turton. This was *Carried.*

HEAD OFFICE AND JOURNAL COMMITTEE

46. *Report of Head Office and Journal Committee:* The Chairman of this Committee, Dr. Sichel, presented the Report. He stated that there had been five meetings of the Committee since the last meeting of Council, the average attendance being ten members. All former members of Council had received the Minutes of meetings and so were informed of all that had taken place. In the circumstances reference would only be made to the following matters:—

47. *Office in Pretoria:* The Report stated: 'The Association's office in Pretoria is situated on the Seventh Floor of Medical Centre, Pretorius Street, where three rooms have been rented. The Assistant Secretary in the Transvaal, Dr. P. D. Combrink, moved into these quarters during April, and Mrs. M. Esterhuizen was appointed full-time to his staff from 1 May. The volume of work in this office has made it increasingly necessary to give approval to the appointment of a second shorthand typist. Office equipment has been purchased to meet the needs of the staff.'

Dr. Sichel asked whether members had any questions to ask. There were no questions and this item was *Noted.*

48. *'History of Medicine in South Africa':* The Report stated: 'The printing of this book is at present being carried out in Holland, and the page proofs are being received in this country for proof reading. It is unlikely that copies of the book will be ready in time for the Durban Congress, but it is hoped that they will be on sale before the end of the year. A prospectus and order form will shortly be sent to all members of the Association.'

For the benefit of members who were not aware of all the facts, Dr. Sichel gave a resumé of what had taken place to date. He assured Council that the 'History' was going to be a very fine book. *Noted.*

49. *'South African Practitioner':* The Report stated: 'An approach was made by the Managing Editor of the *South African Practitioner* regarding an amalgamation with the *South African Medical Journal*. The suggested terms of amalgamation were quite unacceptable, and an exchange of letters ended on a friendly note. *Noted.*

50. *'Medicine in South Africa—1957':* The Report stated: 'At the request of Dr. A. Shedrow, Chairman of the South African Council for the Exchange of Medical Sciences, it was agreed that the Association should be responsible for the distribution of copies of "Medicine in South Africa—1957" as a "Supplement" to the *South African Medical Journal*. Arrangements which had already been made by the Council were sufficiently far advanced to make close co-ordination in this matter impossible, but any future venture in this regard should be the result of close co-operation between the Council and the Association, in order that it may be more effective.'

Short discussion followed and Council *Agreed* that this item be *Noted*.

51. *Visits to Branches:* The Report stated: 'Towards the end of June the Secretary visited the Natal Coastal Branch at the request of the Organising Committee of Congress. At the same time he was able to visit East London and Port Elizabeth.'

Dr. Sichel said that after his Report had been written, the Secretary had visited the Transvaal. There he had been able to address meetings of the Northern Transvaal Branch and the East Rand Branch.

Dr. Gluckman added that his Branch regretted that it had not been possible to arrange a meeting where the Secretary could address the Southern Transvaal Branch, as the only night available for a meeting had been the same night on which the Northern Transvaal Branch had arranged their meeting with the Secretary.

Noted.

Council adjourned for lunch from 1 p.m. to 2.35 p.m.

52. *Hamilton-Maynard Memorial Medal for 1956:* The Report stated: 'It was agreed unanimously that the Hamilton-Maynard Memorial Medal for 1956 be awarded to Dr. Geoffrey Dean, of Port Elizabeth, for his paper entitled "Porphyria, a Familial Disease: Its Diagnosis and Treatment", appearing in the *Journal* of 21 April, 1956, on Page 377.' *Noted with Acclamation.*

53. *Leipoldt Memorial Medal for 1956:* The Report stated: 'It was unanimously agreed that the award of the Leipoldt Memorial Medal for 1956 be made to Dr. H. Braude, of Kroonstad, for his paper entitled "Phenylketonuria", which appeared in the *Journal* of 28 January, 1956, on Page 83.' *Noted with Acclamation.*

54. *Finance:* The Report stated: 'The Committee held a special meeting to consider a memorandum on the finances of the Association, drawn up by the Honorary Treasurer, Mr. J. D. Joubert. At that meeting the Committee unanimously agreed: "That the Committee is of opinion that we should at this stage be prepared to use *Journal* profits for general expenditure." It was also agreed: "That this Committee recommends that proceeds from insurance commissions and other agencies be allocated, as before, to general funds." It was agreed that a further special meeting should take place, but at the time of writing this Report this has not been held. Any further recommendation will be made at the time of the Council meeting.' *Noted.*

Dr. Sichel then moved the adoption of the Report of the Committee and was seconded by Mr. McMurray.

56. *Report of Management Committee of Benevolent Fund:* The Chairman of this Committee, Dr. Sichel, reported that there had been two meetings of the Committee since the last meeting of Council. The average attendance had been ten members.

57. *Applications for Assistance:* Dr. Sichel reported that the following applications for assistance had received the attention of the Committee: Mrs. J. C. W. W. (Northern Transvaal Branch)—£10 per month as from 1 June, 1957; Mrs. S. W. K. (Cape Midlands and Cape Western Branches)—£180 per annum in two half-yearly instalments commencing in 1957; Mrs. C. J. E. S. (Royal Medical Benevolent Fund)—£10 per month as from 1 May, 1957. He stated that the Committee sought confirmation of its action in making these grants.

Council *Agreed* that these grants be *Confirmed*.

58. *Donations and Legacies:* It was reported that a number of donations and legacies had been received and that these had been acknowledged both to the donors and in the *Journal*. *Noted.*

The Chairman particularly thanked the Vaal River Branch members for the donations which they had made to the Benevolent Fund. He appealed to all members of Council and their colleagues to continue their efforts in raising funds.

At this stage Dr. Troskie stated that the District Surgeons' Group had raised a fund amongst themselves in gratitude for the work which Federal Council had done towards increasing district surgeons' emoluments. He handed in a cheque for £357 0s. 0d., together with a list of the donors. Dr. Sichel thanked him and asked him to pass on the Committee's thanks to those who had contributed to the Fund. He added that due acknowledgement would be made in the *Journal* in due course.

Dr. Sichel then moved the adoption of the Report of the Committee. Council *Agreed* that the Report be *Adopted*.

MINES BENEFIT SOCIETY

59. *Mines Benefit Society:* The Chairman reported that the Executive Committee had met informally during the lunch interval

and now made the following recommendation to Council:

After considerable discussion, an amendment was proposed by Mr. Wolfowitz, seconded by Dr. Gluckman, 'That the Executive Committee, recognising that the policy of the Association is for "open panels", is instructed to meet the Mines Benefit Society, on the understanding that, pending finality in the negotiations, the Federal Council authorises the Executive Committee to give temporary facilities for medical service to the Mines Benefit Society'.

Further discussion followed and a further amendment was proposed by Dr. Turton, seconded by Dr. M. Shapiro, 'That the Executive Committee of Federal Council will be empowered to offer full services to the Mines Benefit Society until such time as the Medical Association of South Africa has investigated the finances of the members of the Mines Benefit Society as to the average various income groups. This information will determine whether the Federal Council will eventually apply the rule of exceptional circumstances which will apply to Benefit Societies'.

After further discussion, Dr. Turton's amendment was put to the vote and *Carried* with one dissentient vote. It was also *Carried* as the substantive motion.

After further discussion, it was proposed by Dr. McCabe, seconded by Mr. Mackenzie, that the recommendation of the Executive Committee be accepted. This was then put to the vote and *Carried Nem. Con.*

The question of the Klerksdorp Mines Benefit Society had been raised earlier in the discussion, and the question was raised once again at this stage, when it was generally *Agreed* that representatives of the Southern Transvaal Branch should meet the Potchefstroom Division in order to discuss this question once again in the light of the resolutions passed and noted above.

60. *Mines Benefit Societies Medical Officers' Group—Protest Against Curtailment of Groups' Activities:* A letter from the Mines Benefit Societies Medical Officers' Group was submitted, in which the Group protested against certain actions of the Federal Council in regard to its members and its activities as a Group.

Council *Agreed* that the Secretary should reply to the letter in terms of the resolutions taken at the present session.

61. *Income Ceilings for Medical Aid and Benefit Societies:* A letter from the East Rand Branch was submitted, containing a resolution reading: 'This Branch Council is in favour of altering the structure of Benefit Societies and strongly recommends that average income ceilings for Benefit Societies are unrealistic and impracticable, and we now recommend that separate ceilings for Benefit Societies and Medical Aid Societies be established and that the principle of average income be abolished.'

Dr. Turton explained what his Branch had in mind, and after short discussion it was proposed by Dr. M. Shapiro, seconded by Dr. Turton and *Resolved* that the letter from the East Rand Branch be noted and that it be referred for information to the Central Committee for Contract Practice.

COMMITTEE FOR CONTRACT PRACTICE

62. *Report of Central Committee for Contract Practice:* Dr. Vercueil, Chairman of the Committee, referred to meetings which the Committee had held, and presented his Report which had already been submitted to members as an Additional Annexure to the Agenda. Council agreed that the items be dealt with *seriatim*.

63. *Tariff of Fees for Approved Medical Aid Societies:* Dr. Vercueil reminded Council that the Committee had been instructed to clear up any anomalies which had appeared in previous Tariff Books. Many of these anomalies had only become evident when the printer's proof of the new Tariff Book was examined. The Executive of the Committee had taken upon itself the responsibility of making the necessary decisions to eliminate these anomalies and now sought confirmation of its action. Owing to the delay in dealing with these matters, the book had appeared later than had been hoped, but the Tariff was to have become operative on 1 August, 1957.

Council *Confirmed* the action of the Executive of the Committee.

64. *General Practitioners' Fees for Consultations, Visits, Night Calls and Week-ends:* At the last meeting of Council it had been resolved that these fees be subject to further negotiation with the Medical Aid Societies. Because a new Committee was to be

constituted, the old Committee had unanimously agreed to recommend to Council that further negotiations with the Medical Aid Societies be left to the incoming Committee. Council *Agreed*.

66. *Metal Box Company of S.A. Ltd. Medical Aid Society*: The Committee had considered the question of members of this Society being served by the Vanderbijlpark Medical Benefit Fund and now recommend to Council that this problem be referred to the Vaal River Branch for consideration and the subsequent submission of a recommendation to the incoming Central Committee for Contract Practice.

The Chairman of Council stated that the Vaal River Branch had discussed this matter and had decided that the Society should function as an independent Medical Aid Society. This was *Noted* and Council *Agreed* with the recommendation of the Committee.

67. *Natal Industries Medical Aid Society*: It was reported that this Society had also incorporated new firms without the prior approval of the Association. The Natal Coastal Branch had now informed the Committee that the Society was co-operating with the Association. It was also reported that a firm in East London was to be incorporated by the Society. The Committee felt that if this firm was a branch of a parent firm which was a member of the Natal Chamber of Industries Medical Aid Society, it would be permissible for the employees of the branch firm to join the Society, and the Committee recommended that the matter be referred to the Natal Coastal Branch and to the Border Branch for investigation and report to the next meeting of the Committee.

Council *Agreed* accordingly.

68. *Union Liquid Air Co. (Pty.) Ltd. Medical Aid Society*: It was stated that contingent approval had been granted to this Society, subject to certain minor amendments being made to its rules. The Committee now reported that a satisfactory reply, agreeing to the amendments, had been received from the Secretary of the Society. *Noted*.

69. *Charge for Secondary Operation (Closure of Colostomy) After Previous Abdominal Operation*: It was reported that the Committee had consulted the Association of Surgeons for a ruling as to whether the closure of a colostomy was a new operation or part of the after-treatment of the previous operation. The Committee recommended to Council that the closure of a colostomy be regarded as a new operation and not part of the after-treatment of a previous operation, and that it be permissible to levy a fee in respect of the secondary operation.

Council *Agreed* with this ruling.

70. *Applications for Approval of New Medical Aid Societies*:

(a) *Associated Employers Medical Aid Society*: It was reported that this was an application for a combination of fourteen firms representing 274 members and 375 dependants. Provision had been made in the Constitution for the incorporation of further firms, subject to certain conditions which included the obtaining of prior approval by the Association. Certain minor amendments to the Constitution had been suggested to the Society and these had been accepted.

Considerable discussion followed on the question of the income group of the members and also whether Council should agree to a 'conglomerate body' being recognised. Finally Council *Agreed* to the recommendation of the Committee that the Society be approved, subject to certain minor alterations being made in its rules and the receipt from the Society of an assurance that the average income of its members conformed to the rules of the Medical Association.

(b) *Medical Aid Society for the European Employees of the Marley Floor Tile Co. S.A. (Pty.) Ltd. and Frank Wright (Pty.) Ltd. and Associated Companies*: It was reported that negotiations had not been completed, and therefore Council *Agreed* to leave the consideration of this application in abeyance until the next meeting of the Central Committee for Contract Practice.

(c) *Waverly Gold Mines Medical Aid Society*: It was reported that negotiations had not yet been completed, and therefore Council *Agreed* to leave consideration of this application in abeyance until the next meeting of the Central Committee for Contract Practice.

(d) *Northern Assurance Company Ltd. Medical Aid Society*: It was reported that this Society had been established for the employees of the Northern Assurance Company. Provision had been made in the Constitution whereby the Society could indemnify a member in respect of fees charged by non-registered persons. On request from the Committee, the Society had since agreed to delete this item from its Constitution. The maximum annual benefits were liberal, viz. £200 in respect of a member as well as £200 in

respect of his wife and £75 for each child. Members earning over £2,500 per annum were required to pay private fees and not to represent themselves as ordinary members of the Society.

On the recommendation of the Committee, Council *Agreed* to grant recognition to this Society in view of the alteration which had been made in its Constitution.

71. *Amendments to Constitutions*: The Committee recommended to Council that amendments to the Constitutions of the following Societies be accepted, pointing out that these amendments did not adversely affect medical practitioners, in that they dealt with administrative matters, increased benefits to members, or brought certain clauses into conformity with the rules of the Association:—

- (i) Bloemfontein Municipal Employees Medical Aid Society.
- (ii) Elwamba Medical Aid Society.
- (iii) Metal Box Company of S.A. (Pty.) Ltd. Medical Aid Society.
- (iv) Printing Industry Medical Aid Fund.
- (v) Federated Employers Medical Aid Society.

Council *Agreed* that these amendments be *Approved*.

72. *Chamber of Mines Medical Aid Society*: It was reported that this Society had agreed to include another constituent body, but that no reply had been received regarding the average income of the employees of the constituent body.

Council *Agreed* that this matter be left in abeyance until the next meeting of the Central Committee for Contract Practice.

73. *S.A.A.M.E. Medical Aid Fund*: It was reported that the Society had requested approval of amendments to certain rules relating purely to administrative matters, and also for the inclusion of a new clause reading: 'The Fund shall not be liable for any portion of amounts due by a contributor for immunization, treatment or accommodation in respect of any infectious disease, unless the Council in the special circumstances of any case decides otherwise.'

The Committee recommended approval of the rules regarding the administration, but not the rule regarding infectious diseases. The Committee had, however, recommended a clause reading as follows: 'The Fund shall not be liable for the treatment in fever hospitals of notifiable infectious diseases, or for immunization where such immunization is provided by the local health authority.' The Society had since advised that it was not prepared to accept the clause as recommended by the Committee, but that it would pay the doctor and obtain a refund from the member.

Considering that this amendment would, therefore, not affect the medical practitioner adversely, Council *Agreed* to *Approve* the proposed amendments.

74. *General Mining (Associated Companies) Medical Aid Society*: Dr. Vercueil stated that the Committee had considered certain amendments submitted by the Society, but that certain further amendments had been submitted subsequent to the meeting of the Committee.

Dr. Vercueil recommended, and Council *Agreed*, that this matter be left in abeyance until the next meeting of the Committee.

75. *Medical Aid Society of the Federation of Master Printers of South Africa*: It was reported that this Society had submitted a complete schedule of the 111 employer members participating in this Society with 926 members and 1,167 dependants.

In discussion, doubt was expressed as to whether this Society did not contain persons with high incomes comprising more than the definite percentage allowed by the Association. It was further reported, however, that in the negotiations for approval, the Society had given the assurance that the requirements of the Association had been complied with. As a result, Council *Agreed* that this list of employer members be *Noted*.

76. *Medical Account—Natal Industries Medical Aid Society*: It was reported that an account rendered to a member of the Society had been in dispute and that the Natal Coastal Branch, which had considered the matter, had ruled that the practitioner was entitled to an amount of £71 0s. 0d. and not to the amount of £121 0s. 0d. which he had charged. The practitioner had appealed to the Committee against the ruling of the Branch, claiming that the case had been one of prolonged treatment for extensive abscess of the abdominal wall following an abdominal operation. The Committee supported the action of the Natal Coastal Branch, but referred the matter to Federal Council to take what further action it might deem fit as regards the desirability of referring the entire matter to the S.A. Medical and Dental Council.

It was proposed by Dr. Broomberg, seconded by Dr. M. Shapiro

and *Resolved* that the action taken by the Natal Coastal Branch be confirmed and that the matter be not referred to the S.A. Medical and Dental Council.

77. *S.A.R. & H. Sick Fund—Salaried Pathologist*: It was reported that the S.A.R. & H. Sick Fund had advertised for a pathologist in Pretoria, but that the Northern Transvaal Branch had not approved the appointment in view of the Association's policy of 'open panels' and the fact that the services were being rendered at Medical Aid rates less 20% on an open panel basis at the time. Although there was only one firm of pathologists in Pretoria, the Branch had recommended that the Sick Fund should offer the amount allocated for this appointment for distribution on a *pro rata* basis to all such pathologists as may render service, according to the amount of work carried out. The Sick Fund had indicated that it would be willing to appoint more than one practitioner if there were more than one application, but it could not be bound to allow others to participate in the future beyond the needs of the service.

The Committee suggested that as appointments on similar lines had been approved in Johannesburg, the Northern Transvaal Branch should also approve of this post in Pretoria.

Dr. Verceuil, however, stated that only one applicant had applied for the post in Pretoria and the matter was now settled. *Noted*.

78. *Additional Charges for Tests and Procedures Undertaken During Routine Examinations*: It was reported that certain specialists had taken exception to the fact that provision had been made in the Tariff for a physician to levy an extra charge for microscopic examination of urine, but that other specialists could not do so. The Northern Transvaal Branch had brought this matter to the notice of the Committee, and the Committee, taking into account that there was a Medical Council ruling on this subject, recommended to Council 'That no additional charge should be levied in respect of microscopic examination of urine by any practitioner when carried out as a part of a routine examination, and that the relative item in the Physicians' tariff be deleted.'

Indecisive discussion followed and eventually Council *Agreed* that the matter be referred back to the Central Committee for Contract Practice for further consideration.

Council adjourned at 6.30 p.m.

FRIDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER

Council met at 9 a.m., Dr. Turton being in the Chair.

79. *Stewarts & Lloyds Medical Aid Society*: Council was informed of the differences which had arisen between this Society and some of the doctors practising in its area. Dr. Verceuil gave a short resumé of the circumstances and mentioned that the Vaal River Branch suggested three alternatives: (1) The Society should revert to a Medical Benefit Fund. This would cater only for the lower income group of employees which would take in roughly 50% of the employees, and the Society was not keen on excluding the other 50% from benefits. (2) They should employ full-time doctors to deal with the members of the Fund. (3) The Society should employ six part-time doctors at a salary of approximately £2,000 per annum, to deal with their members. (4) The Society should remain a Medical Aid Society but be allowed to exclude some doctors whose accounts had been consistently very high in proportion to the number of members they had treated.

Discussion followed and eventually Dr. Verceuil informed Council that at a meeting of the Vaal River Branch held on 19 August, 1957, the following resolution had been adopted: 'That Stewarts & Lloyds Medical Aid Society should remain a Medical Aid Society with the right to limit their panel of medical practitioners in consultation with the Medical Association of South Africa.'

Further discussion followed and the resolution noted above was moved by Dr. Chapman, seconded by Dr. Verceuil. On being put to the vote, this was *Carried* with two dissentient votes. Dr. M. Shapiro and Dr. Adler requested that their votes be recorded against this resolution.

80. *Sasol Medical Benefit Society*: Dr. Verceuil reminded members that what had once been a Medical Aid Society in Sasolburg had been changed to a Benefit Society on account of the uncooperative attitude of some of the medical practitioners in the town. More trouble had arisen in this instance, mainly due to the fact that some of the medical practitioners would not keep to regular consulting hours and would not advertise the hours at which they normally consulted. The Committee of the Society

now wished either to appoint three full-time medical practitioners or three part-time medical practitioners to carry out the work of the Society.

The whole question was thoroughly discussed, and it was proposed by Dr. Verceuil, seconded by Dr. Waks, 'That as special circumstances pertain at Sasolburg, Federal Council allows the Sasol Benefit Society to appoint three or four part-time general practitioners with limited private practice, and that the position be reviewed after two years'.

An amendment was proposed by Dr. M. Shapiro, seconded by Dr. Heymann, 'That it be recommended to the Sasol Medical Benefit Fund that they either revert to a Medical Aid Society or remain an open panel Benefit Society. The Federal Council prefers a Medical Aid Society, and in the event that they revert to a Medical Aid Society the Federal Council will recommend to the Branch of the Association concerned that it establish an Assessment Committee to consider accounts rendered. If they remain an open panel Benefit Society, the Federal Council recommends that the following conditions of appointment shall apply: (a) the practitioner shall be a member of the Medical Association of South Africa; (b) the practitioner shall prescribe his consulting hours'.

When Dr. Verceuil stated that he wished to amend his resolution to include the suggestion that the part-time medical practitioners mentioned should be members of the Association, his seconder withdrew his support of the resolution.

Dr. Shapiro's amendment was then put to the vote and *Carried* with three dissentient votes. It was also *Carried* as the substantive motion.

The Chairman appealed to the O.F.S. & Basutoland Branch to make some arrangement to meet the Society and to explain the feeling of Federal Council and to offer them assistance if they wished to revert to a Medical Aid Society.

81. *Natal Pathologists Sub-Group—Overriding by a Society of the Doctor and Patient on Choice of Consultant*: The Natal Pathologists Sub-Group had requested a ruling on the question as to whether it was in order for a Medical Aid Society or Sick Fund to alter a doctor's letter directing the patient to a consultant of the Society's choice rather than one chosen by the doctor or patient. It wished also to know whether a Society could instruct doctors to send their work to a particular consultant.

It was reported that the Committee had recommended as follows: (i) That a Medical Aid Society or Sick Fund does not have the right to override the doctor and patient in their choice of consultant, and (ii) that a Society or Sick Fund should not write to their doctors instructing them to send their work to a particular consultant.

Council *Agreed* with this ruling.

THE NEW TARIFF BOOK

82. *Items in the New Tariff Book to be Clarified*: It was reported that certain items in the new Tariff had been in dispute, and the Committee sought Council's approval of certain changes which had already been embodied in the Tariff book, except where otherwise indicated.

(a) *Paragraph in the General Rules Governing the Tariff—Fee for Examination on Admission to a Society*: The Committee recommended to Council 'That the fee for examination on admission to a Society should remain as before, i.e. £1 1s. 0d. for a member and 10/6d. each for dependants'.

(b) *Section 1: Neurologists to Apply Same Fees as Neurosurgeons for Repeat Procedures, e.g. Lumbar Puncture*: It was reported that the Medical Aid Societies had requested that general practitioners should also charge the reduced fee of £1 11s. 6d. for repeat lumbar punctures, as was the case in the schedule for neurosurgeons. The Societies had been informed that repeat lumbar punctures were not routinely done by general practitioners.

The Committee recommended to Council 'That neurologists and neurosurgeons should receive £3 3s. 0d. for a lumbar puncture and £1 11s. 6d. for a repeat procedure, but that general practitioners and physicians should be remunerated at the rate of £3 3s. 0d. for each lumbar puncture'.

(c) *Section M:*

(i) *Reduced Fees for Repeat Procedures to Remain*: The Medical Aid Societies had drawn attention to the fact that there were certain items in which reduced fees for repeat procedures were laid down. Their contention was that these reduced fees should be included in other sections of the book. The Committee could not

agree to this and therefore recommended to Council 'That neurosurgeons' reduced fees for repeat procedures remain unchanged'.

(ii) *Item for Visual Field Charting:* In the negotiations leading up to the compilation of the Tariff, the Ophthalmological Society of South Africa had objected to an item in the section for Neurosurgeons, by which a fee for visual field charting had been laid down. It was considered that this was part of the ordinary consultation and should not be charged for separately. The Committee recommended to Council 'That visual field charting should be part of the ordinary consultation and that neurosurgeons should not levy a separate charge therefore'.

(iii) *Maximum Fee for Pre-Operative Procedures:* Repeated efforts had been made by the Medical Aid Societies to obtain some relief in the fees charged for pre-operative investigation if followed by an operation. The investigations were costly and increased the total amount for which the patient was liable. The Group of Neurologists, Psychiatrists and Neurosurgeons had agreed to the following:—

- The maximum fee to be charged by a neurosurgeon for investigation and operation in any one case is to be £100.
- If a case is investigated first by a neurologist and subsequently operated on by a neurosurgeon, the neurologist may charge a maximum of £20 for the investigation and the neurosurgeon's fee becomes reduced to £80. In this way the total maximum cost to the Medical Aid Society remains the same.
- If a case is referred direct to a neurosurgeon for investigation and possible operation, and no operation ensues, the neurosurgeon's fees for the investigation must be the same as those charged by a neurologist.
- In cases where the neurologist carries out certain preliminary investigations but leaves the matter of arteriography to the neurosurgeon, the neurologist's fee will not amount to £20 and the neurosurgeon would be entitled to charge £80 for operations plus a fee for arteriography which should be such as to keep the total cost of the case to a maximum of £100 0s. 0d.

The Committee recommended to Council that the schedule as suggested by the Group be accepted. This advice had been received too late to be included in the Tariff book.

(iv) *Note re Assistants:* The Committee recommended to Council 'That the Note appearing in Section M (iv) regarding Assistants should be deleted from the existing Tariff as it is covered by Section U.' This Note referred to the remuneration of a second assistant.

(v) *Remuneration of Assistants:* The Group of Neurologists, Psychiatrists and Neurosurgeons had written requesting an amendment in the fees for assistants. Because of the late receipt of this letter, the Committee recommended to Council that the matter should stand over until the next meeting.

(d) *Section Q: Fees for Dilatation and Curettage:* The Medical Aid Societies had requested that a fee for dilatation and curettage should not be charged where the operation was done at the time of another operation (as it was laid down in the existing Tariff), but the Gynaecologists' Group had objected to this suggestion. The Committee recommended to Council 'That the tariff as now appearing in the Book should remain unchanged.'

(e) *Section T: Item for Introduction of Lipiodol:* The Medical Aid Societies had drawn attention to the fact that the fee for this item in the Physicians' tariff was £5 5s. 0d. and in the Thoracic Surgeons' tariff the fee was £7 10s. 0d. The Committee recommended to Council 'That in Section T the fee for this item remain unchanged at £7 10s. 0d.'

Council Agreed that all these recommendations be Accepted.

83. *Complaint from the Polliack Group Medical Aid Society:* It was reported that a complaint had been received from this Society in regard to the attitude towards the Society by the Honorary Secretary of the Southern Transvaal Branch. The Committee had agreed to recommend to Council that this complaint be referred to the Southern Transvaal Branch and that the Society be informed accordingly. Council Agreed.

84. *Proposal by Dr. L. L. Alexander regarding Benefit Society Matters:* It was reported that the Committee had considered a proposal by Dr. Alexander 'That all Benefit Society matters should be dealt with by the Central Committee for Contract Practice in the same way as Medical Aid Society matters, especially in view of the fact that numerous queries and requests come to the Committee in connection with Benefit Societies'.

The Committee recommended to Council 'That Branch Councils should be empowered to refer Benefit Society matters to the Central Committee for Contract Practice if they so desire. Once, however, a problem has been referred to the Central Committee for Contract Practice, it should be entirely out of the hands of the Branch Council concerned'.

After discussion, it was proposed by Dr. Zabow that the words 'until referred back to the Branch Council' be added to the Committee's recommendation. Council Agreed accordingly and the recommendation as amended was Adopted.

86. *Loyal St. George Lodge:* It was reported that the Cape Western Branch had agreed to the appointment of one medical practitioner to serve the 100 non-European members of this Lodge, but that the Branch required the concurrence of Council before the appointment could be made. Council Agreed accordingly.

BLOOD TRANSFUSIONS

87. *Fees for Blood Transfusion:* It was reported that the Committee had received a deputation from the S.A. Blood Transfusion Service to discuss fees for blood transfusions. Representatives of the Pathologists' Group had also been present. Discussion had taken place on the basis of the points contained in a memorandum prepared by Dr. Bell, the Chairman of the S.A. Blood Transfusion Service, a copy of which had been submitted to members of Council. As a result of the discussion, the Committee had agreed to recommend to Council:

- That, as many members of the profession were not aware of the fact that free ante-natal services were provided by the Government, mention of this fact should be made in the new Tariff Book.
- That it be specified in the new tariff book that plasma produced from blood voluntarily donated in South Africa costs £3 per unit as against £8 10s. 0d. per unit for the imported commercial product.
- That the following tariff of medical fees for blood transfusions be accepted:—

(a) Transfusions of blood or plasma.

(Any volume up to 1 litre i.e. 2 units of blood or 4 units of plasma).

Under 3 years of age £2 12s. 6d.

Over 3 years of age £1 11s. 6d.

(No additional fee for cut-down or other special procedure or for night calls.)

An additional fee of 10/6d. per additional ½ litre (i.e. one unit of blood or 2 units of plasma) transfused at a single operation.

(b) Compatibility Tests.

The fee to be £2 2s. 0d. for compatibility tests.

(c) Exchange Transfusions.

No definite recommendation re the reduction in the fee for exchange transfusions from £25 0s. 0d. to £12 10s. 0d. was adopted, but the Committee agreed to bring this matter to the notice of Federal Council. As Dr. Shapiro had raised various points which were not included in Dr. Bell's memorandum he was requested to draw up a further memorandum to include these points. The Assistant Secretary (Transvaal) was instructed to forward both memoranda to the Cape Western, Border, Cape Midlands, Natal Coastal and Natal Inland Branches and at the same time to inform these Branches of the decisions made by the Committee. This would enable these Branches to discuss the matter with the Paediatric Sub-Groups in their areas which in turn would enable the Federal Councillors representing these Branches to present the point of view of the Paediatricians when the matter is considered by Federal Council.

N.B. No differentiation in fees as between Benefit Societies, Medical Aid Societies or private patients. In the case of donors and their dependants who are not insured for medical services by a benefit or medical aid society or insurance fund, the operator's fee shall be charged direct to the service at the rate of two-thirds of the above schedule.

After making his report, Dr. Vercueil suggested that Dr. M. Shapiro should amplify what had already been stated.

This Dr. Shapiro did in an address which was noted with acclamation.

Dr. Vercueil then read a resolution which had been received from the Cape Western Branch, as follows: 'That the fees for the grouping, cross-matching and administration of blood should remain at their present level in the Cape Western area, except in the case of paediatricians whose fees should be increased as laid down at their Annual General Meeting in 1956'.

The question of exchange transfusions, which had been referred to the Paediatricians' Group, was then commented on by Dr. Heymann, and discussion on this aspect followed.

After further discussion on this general subject, it was proposed by Dr. Struthers, seconded by Dr. Heymann and *Unanimously resolved* 'That Council considers that the comprehensive service for blood transfusion such as exists in the S.A. Blood Transfusion Service is the best type of service. As there is no comprehensive service in the Cape, Federal Council suggests no alteration in the fees'.

A further resolution, proposed by Dr. Gluckman and seconded by Mr. Wolfowitz, was then put to the vote and *Carried unanimously*. The resolution read: 'That Item (i) *re* free ante-natal services provided by the Government be not published in the Tariff book but in the *Journal*'.

88. *Adoption of Report of Central Committee for Contract Practice*: Dr. Vercueil said that before he moved the adoption of the Report, he would like to express his thanks to the members of the Committee for the work they had done. He reminded members that with the production of the new Tariff book the fees for specialists would be binding for at least three years, unless there should be a considerable rise in the cost of living. He said also that he wished to thank those specialists and general practitioners who had attended meetings of the Committee in order to assist in the formulation of tariffs. He also thanked Dr. Marchand and Dr. Combrink for their services.

Mr. Currie rose to propose a vote of thanks to Dr. Vercueil for his able Chairmanship of the Committee and for the admirable way in which he had presided over its meetings. *Acclamation*.

Mr. Wolfowitz raised the question of the Traduna Medical Aid Society, and it was *Agreed* that this matter be referred to the Central Committee for Contract Practice for discussion.

Dr. M. Shapiro referred to the dissatisfaction amongst general practitioners in Johannesburg where, he stated, the benefits of the new Tariff were negligible.

Dr. Vercueil then moved the adoption of the Report of the Committee. This was *Carried unanimously*.

S.A.R. & H. SICK FUND

89. *Orthopaedic Services to S.A.R. & H. Sick Fund*: The Chairman reminded members that consideration of this question had been deferred until the meeting could be addressed by Mr. C. T. Möller.

Mr. Möller was then invited to address Council.

After reviewing the history of the establishment of the orthopaedic services to the Railway Sick Fund, Mr. Möller referred in detail to the recent differences of opinion which had arisen between the Orthopaedic Surgeons' Group and the Sick Fund. Mention was made of the decisions which Federal Council had taken in this regard, and it was pointed out that at its last meeting Council had agreed that further negotiations should be conducted by the Central Committee for Contract Practice. The Sick Fund Board had not agreed to this proposal and had stated that it was prepared to negotiate only with the Railway Medical Officers' Group.

At the conclusion of Mr. Möller's address, the Chairman asked members whether they had any questions to put to Mr. Möller. A number of questions were asked.

Council adjourned for lunch from 1.7 p.m. to 2.25 p.m.

On resuming, the Chairman pointed out that there was still a large amount of business to be attended to, and it was proposed by Mr. Currie, seconded by Dr. Zabow, that Council sit that night. Council *Agreed*.

Further questions were then asked of Mr. Möller and replies given.

When there were no further questions, the Chairman thanked Mr. Möller for having addressed Council and having answered questions. He stated that Mr. Möller might remain at the meeting during the discussion, if he so wished.

Dr. Turton said that he felt it was necessary at this stage to draw

attention to Minute 21 of the Council meeting held at Vereeniging in April, 1956, in which Council had agreed that the orthopaedic appointments being made to the Railways Sick Fund should be temporary for a period of one year and that they be re-advertised after that period. He pointed out that the main opposition to the Railway appointments had come from the Southern Transvaal Branch and that he had reported to Council that the Branch had eventually agreed that there were special circumstances attaching to the appointments whereby 'exceptional circumstances' were recognised in favour of closed panel appointments being made in so far as orthopaedic appointments were concerned.

It was then proposed by Dr. M. Shapiro, seconded by Dr. Heymann, 'That future negotiations with the Railway Sick Fund shall be at the level of the Federal Council'.

Further discussion followed, and eventually it was proposed by Dr. Gluckman, seconded by Mr. Wolfowitz and *Agreed* that the motion be put.

On being put to the vote, the proposal by Dr. M. Shapiro was *Carried*.

It was then proposed by Dr. Schaffer, seconded by Dr. Turton, 'That the present holders of orthopaedic appointments be requested to continue their service until such time as negotiations with the Railway Sick Fund have been concluded and conditions for future services are approved by Federal Council. Should Federal Council not be satisfied that a suitable agreement has been arrived at, Federal Council will decide what shall be done.'

Further discussion followed and eventually it was proposed by Mr. Wolfowitz, seconded by Dr. Gluckman and *Agreed* that the question be put.

On being put to the vote, Dr. Schaffer's proposal was *Carried* with three dissentient votes.

It was then proposed by Mr. Wolfowitz, seconded by Dr. Gluckman, 'That an *ad hoc* committee be set up to conduct negotiations with the S.A.R. & H. Sick Fund, such committee to include representatives of the Railway Medical Officers' Group'. On being put to the vote, this was *Carried*.

It was proposed by Dr. M. Shapiro, seconded by Mr. Wolfowitz and *Resolved* that the Committee should consist of Dr. L. S. Robertson, Dr. Turton and representatives of the Railway Medical Officers' Group.

PRESENTATIONS

90. *Presentations to Dr. A. W. S. Sichel and Dr. J. S. du Toit*: At this stage of the meeting, the President, Dr. H. Grant-Whyte, paid tribute to Dr. Sichel and Dr. du Toit for the work which they had done for the Association over many years. On behalf of the members of Council he presented to Dr. Sichel a silver tea service and a leather brief case, and to Dr. du Toit he presented a silver and glass soup service. *Acclamation*.

Both the recipients expressed thanks for the gifts and for the tributes which had been paid to them.

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE

91. *Report of Parliamentary Committee*: Dr. Struthers, Chairman of the Committee, presented his Report, stating that the Parliamentary Committee had met on several occasions since the last meeting of Council and had dealt with a number of issues. *Noted*.

92. *Meeting with Ad Hoc Committee of S.A. Medical and Dental Council*: It was reported that as the recent amendment to the Medical, Dental and Pharmacy Act of 1928 had removed certain doubt as to the validity of the Council's Ethical Rules, the Parliamentary Committee had met a special *ad hoc* committee of the Council on 6 June, 1957, to discuss possible changes in certain of these Rules.

A number of recommendations for the consideration of Federal Council were submitted. Council *Accepted* the recommendations of the Committee.

93. *Remuneration of Doctors—Third Party Insurance*: It was stated that the Commission appointed by the Government to investigate the Third Party Insurance Act had completed its Report without finding it necessary to take any evidence from interested parties. In view of this fact and after consideration of a memorandum submitted by Dr. J. G. A. du Toit and Dr. P. D. Combrink on this subject, the Committee recommended to Council that no further action be taken by the Association. Council *Agreed*.

94. *Native Laws Amendment Act*: It was reported that in view of the alterations which had been made to Section 29 of the Act and in view of a letter which had been addressed to the Association by Dr. Carel de Wet, M.P., the Committee recommended to Council that no further action be taken. Council *Agreed*.

95. *Natal Motor Transport Ordinance*: It was reported that the Natal Coastal Branch had sought the assistance of the Committee in connection with the medical examination of prospective drivers, as these persons were at present being diverted to the Addington Hospital and the King Edward VIII Hospital for examination. It was noted that the Traffic Department had attempted to have a panel of private practitioners appointed but had met with no co-operation. As the Ordinance laid down that an applicant for a licence should submit himself for examination to 'a medical practitioner nominated by the Officer-in-Charge of the Bureau', the Committee felt that this was a matter which should be taken up with the Provincial authorities by the Augmented Executive Committee for Natal. It recommended accordingly. Council *Agreed*.

96. *Deduction of Membership Subscription to Association from Total Income by Doctors for Income Tax Purposes*: It was stated that the Commissioner for Inland Revenue had been interviewed by the Assistant Secretary (Transvaal) and had consented to allow all doctors, whether in private practice or in full-time employment, to deduct their Association subscription from their total income for income tax purposes. *Noted*.

97. *Income Tax Concession in Relation to Post-Graduate Overseas Study Tours*: The Committee reported that the proposed concessions, as contained in its last Report to Council, had been accepted by the Commissioner for Inland Revenue and the Minister of Finance, and that an official letter from the Commissioner might be expected in the near future.

Dr. Gluckman raised a point in regard to courses of study which might be taken in one place and an examination conducted in another centre.

Council *Noted* the report and *Agreed* that the matter raised by Dr. Gluckman be referred to the Parliamentary Committee for discussion.

98. *Remuneration of Part-time Medical Officers in Employ of Department of Defence*: It was reported that an exchange of letters had taken place between the Committee and the Department of Defence in regard to this matter. The Secretary for Health had also been approached in order that the question of the remuneration of part-time doctors employed by the Union Department of Health might be increased.

Council *Noted* that the matter was still under negotiation.

99. *Remuneration of Part-time Medical Officers Rendering Services at Clinics Run by Various Local Health Authorities*: Council was reminded that this matter had originally been raised by the Society of Medical Women. The scale of part-time salaries for general practitioners and specialists was submitted, and it was reported that the Committee had interviewed the Secretary for Health to discuss these scales. For various administrative reasons, Dr. le Roux could not be persuaded to recommend an increase in the scales. He had, however, informed the Committee that a minimum of 85% of the work performed by the incumbents of these posts was in connection with tuberculosis patients, and in view of this fact the Committee now recommended to Council that the matter be not pressed. Council *Agreed*.

100. *Temporary Appointments*: It was reported that a letter had been addressed to the Registrar of the S.A. Medical and Dental Council, in which the Committee recommended on behalf of the Association the following:—

'When a medical post is advertised, the period of notice provided for in the contract must be of sufficient length of time to enable a new appointment to be made in that time. Should the post, for any reason, be suddenly vacated, the Association would have no objection to a *locum tenens* being appointed temporarily to the vacant post for the unexpired period of notice provided for in the contract.'

Council *Agreed* with this recommendation.

101. *Adoption of the Parliamentary Committee Report*: Dr. Sichel proposed a vote of thanks to the Parliamentary Committee and to its Chairman and the Assistant Secretary (Transvaal) for the considerable amount of work which had been done in connection with the various matters mentioned above.

Dr. Struthers pointed out that the work had been made a great deal easier by the appointment of the Assistant Secretary (Transvaal). He then moved the adoption of the Report. This was *Carried*.

102. *Report of Workmen's Compensation Act Sub-Committee*: Dr. Vercueil, as Chairman of this Committee, stated that the Committee with a few co-opted members representing various national Groups, had met the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner in order to discuss certain items in the new Tariff book. He submitted a lengthy Report covering all the aspects of the discussion which had taken place. These were *Accepted* by Federal Council.

Mr. Mackenzie moved the adoption of the Report, seconded by Dr. Paterson. This was *Carried*.

103. *Election of Workmen's Compensation Act Sub-Committee*: It was proposed by Dr. Turton that the new Sub-Committee consist of Dr. L. O. Vercueil, Dr. C. M. Grundlingh, Dr. J. H. Casewell, Dr. M. Segal and Mr. J. Wolfowitz. Council *Agreed*.

104. *Report of Sub-Committee on Rehabilitation*: It was reported that the Sub-Committee was at present drawing up a suitable memorandum on the subject of expert medical assistance in rehabilitation projects in sheltered employment. *Noted*.

After short discussion it was proposed that Dr. C. Adler constitute the Sub-Committee with power to co-opt. Council *Agreed*.

105. *Report of Sub-Committee to Advise Controller of Imports*: It was reported that a letter had been received from the Chairman of the Pharmaceutical Advisory Committee, stating that import control had been relaxed and that it would be unnecessary to continue with the detailed screening of applications for currency for the importation of new ethical pharmaceutical preparations. A letter had also been received from the Controller of Imports and Exports, expressing the thanks and appreciation of his Department to the Committee for services rendered.

Dr. Sichel proposed that the Sub-Committee be discharged. Council *Agreed* that the Sub-Committee be discharged with thanks to Dr. Sichel and the Sub-Committee for the work which they had done. *Acclamation*.

106. *Report of Sub-Committee on Groups within the Association*: Dr. Waks presented this Report, and after referring to discussions which had taken place he stated that the Sub-Committee now recommended to Council that the following clause be added to its original memorandum: 'Notwithstanding anything contained heretofore, Federal Council shall be empowered to delegate to a Group the right of negotiation on a particular issue, provided that no decision arrived at shall be binding unless and until this is approved of by Federal Council.'

In the discussion which followed, Dr. M. Shapiro moved the previous question, seconded by Mr. Wolfowitz. On being put to the vote, this was *Lost*.

The recommendation of the Sub-Committee was then put to the vote and *Carried*.

107. *Sub-Committee on Medical Fees for Private Practice*: In the absence of Dr. Landau, Chairman of the Sub-Committee, Mr. Currie presented the Report, stating that since the last meeting of Council the Committee had received from the Cape Town Division of the Cape Western Branch a schedule of fees pertaining to general practitioners. The schedule was submitted to Council, and the Committee recommended that it be forwarded to the S.A. Medical and Dental Council for information. Mr. Currie stated that all schedules of fees received to date had been forwarded to that Council after approval by Federal Council. Council *Agreed* accordingly.

As the main purpose of the Sub-Committee had been fulfilled, it was recommended that the Sub-Committee be discharged. Council *Agreed* that the Sub-Committee be discharged. A vote of thanks to the Sub-Committee was proposed by Dr. Struthers, seconded by Mr. McMurray and *Carried*.

108. *Sub-Committee for Liaison with Dental Association of South Africa*: Dr. Schneider, the Convener, reported that there had been no meetings of the Sub-Committee. *Noted*.

On the suggestion of Dr. Struthers, Council *Agreed* that Dr. Schneider and Dr. L. S. Robertson would act as the new Sub-Committee.

109. *Sub-Committee for Liaison with S.A. Nursing Association*: Council *Noted* that there was no Report from this Sub-Committee.

It was *Agreed* that the Federal Council representatives of the Northern Transvaal Branch would continue to act as the Sub-Committee.

PHARMACEUTICAL MATTERS

110. *Sub-Committee for Liaison with Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa:* The Convener, Dr. Vercueil, presented the Report of this Sub-Committee. He referred first to the proposal by the Council for the Pharmaceutical Trade and Industry to reduce the discount allowed to doctors on ethical preparations, and said he felt that Federal Council should lodge an objection with that Council against this resolution.

Dr. Sichel referred to the Executive Committee's report on this subject.

A member, who stated that he was a dispensing doctor in an urban area, pointed out that the majority of his patients were non-Europeans and that the cost of medicines supplied was part of his consultation fee.

It was proposed by Dr. M. Shapiro 'That the Council for the Pharmaceutical Trade and Industry be informed that this Federal Council would view with grave concern the implementation of the proposals submitted to the Medical Association with regard to the cost of drugs to doctors, and that unless they repudiate these proposals, the Association will not discuss the matter with them'. On being put to the vote, this was *Carried*.

Later, in regard to the Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa, Dr. M. Shapiro proposed that there should be no further negotiation with the Society unless they repudiated any association with the proposal of the Council for the Pharmaceutical Trade and Industry. Council *Agreed*.

As a result of the reading of a letter from the Society, Dr. M. Shapiro moved that the Sub-Committee be disbanded.

After discussion Dr. M. Shapiro proposed that a Vigilance Committee be appointed in regard to pharmaceutical matters, instead of the Sub-Committee for Liaison with the Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa. Council *Agreed*. Council further *Agreed* that the members of the Vigilance Committee should be Dr. E. W. Turton, Dr. A. L. Agranat and Dr. L. O. Vercueil.

On the suggestion of the Chairman, Council *Agreed* that the questions put to the Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa in a letter dated 11 June, 1957, and the replies to those questions received in a letter dated 17 June, 1957, should be included in the Minutes for general information. The matter referred to is the proposal by the Council for the Pharmaceutical Trade and Industry to reduce the discount allowed to doctors, contained in a resolution passed by that Council at a meeting in Cape Town. The questions and answers are as follows:—

- (a) Whether or not your Society was a party to this resolution, or alternatively
- (b) Whether or not your Society has representation on the Council for the Pharmaceutical Trade and Industry, and if so,
- (c) Whether or not your Society's representatives on the Council supported the resolution.

Answers:

- (a) My Society was not called upon to consider the resolution before it was adopted by the Council for the Pharmaceutical Trade and Industry.
- (b) The Society is represented on the Council.
- (c) The resolution was unanimously adopted and was supported by our representatives. It was subsequently reported to the Society's General Council and enjoys the wholehearted support of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa.

111. *Sub-Committee to Enquire into Medical Education and Internships:* The Convener, Mr. McMurray, requested that his Report be held over until the next meeting of Council as his Committee was still in the process of gathering information. Council *Agreed*.

Council *Agreed* that Mr. McMurray and Mr. Joubert be re-appointed as members of the Sub-Committee.

112. *Report of Augmented Executive Committee in Transvaal:* The Chairman of the Committee, Dr. Struthers, presented this Report and mentioned that there had been several meetings of the Committee since the last meeting of Council. Council *Agreed* that the matters in the Report be dealt with *seriatim*.

113. *Hospital Appointments:* It was reported that the Director of Hospitals in the Transvaal had advised the Committee that his Administration reserved the right, in exceptional cases, to fill clinical medical posts without advertising. Correspondence had taken place regarding this decision, and in view of the probable

alteration by the S.A. Medical and Dental Council of its Ethical Rule 19, making the advertising of all clinical medical posts compulsory, the Committee recommended to Council that this matter be left temporarily in abeyance. Council *Agreed*.

114. *Rates of Pay for Interns in Provincial Hospitals:* After reporting on this matter in so far as the Transvaal Province was concerned, Dr. Struthers informed Council that the matter was now before the Central Health Services and Hospitals Co-ordinating Council and that nothing further could be done at present. *Noted*.

RADIOGRAPHIC SERVICES

115. *Provision of Radiographic Services by Province to Department of Health:* It was reported that the Provincial Administration in the Transvaal was continuing to provide a radiographic service to the Union Department of Health, and that objections had been raised to this service on the grounds that it constituted unfair competition with radiologists in private practice and because the service was incomplete. Having considered the matter, the Committee recommended to Council that no further action be taken, as the service provided was part of the health service to the community as a whole and that difficulty would be experienced by private radiologists in accommodating a large number of non-European patients in their consulting rooms.

Dr. Gluckman referred to a letter from the Southern Transvaal Branch on this subject.

On being put to the vote, the Committee's recommendation was *Carried*.

116. *Appointment of Part-time Radiologists in Radiological Departments of Johannesburg General Hospital:* It was reported that the Director of Hospitals had been interviewed by Dr. Struthers and two representatives of the Radiological Society. The Director had pointed out that he agreed in principle with the making of mixed part-time and full-time radiological appointments at the Hospital, but that until the new Hospitals Ordinance had been passed, it would be impossible to create the necessary establishment. Accordingly the Committee recommended to Council that no further action be taken until such time as the new Hospitals Ordinance became effective. Council *Agreed*.

117. *Fees Paid by Private Patients for Radiological Services Obtained in Provincial Hospitals, with Special Reference to the Two Teaching Hospitals in Johannesburg and Pretoria:* It was reported that this matter had been discussed with the Director of Hospitals and that the Director had stated that he agreed in principle that it was right that the fees paid by private patients should accrue to medical men. As no action could be taken until such time as the new Hospitals Ordinance became effective, the Committee recommended to Council that no further action be taken at this stage. Council *Agreed*.

118. *Ambulance Services Outside Municipal Areas:* Council was reminded that this matter had been referred to the Augmented Executive Committee at the last meeting of Council as it was considered to be a matter for discussion with the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

After preliminary investigation had revealed the many difficulties which would be experienced in negotiating with the numerous Local and Central Authorities at present responsible for ambulance services in the various areas, the Committee had reached the conclusion that the problem could only satisfactorily be solved if the Provincial authorities were to take over all ambulance services. Accordingly the Committee recommended to Council that no further action be taken until such time as the new Hospitals Ordinance became effective. Council *Agreed*.

119. *Treatment of Mines Benefit Society Patients in Provincial Hospitals:* It was reported that an arrangement had been made that Mines Benefit Society patients should be accommodated in the Bethal Hospital as hospital cases, and that a local panel doctor was acting as recommending officer. The Director of Hospitals and the Secretary of the Hospital Services Department had been interviewed and the Committee had been informed that it was possible to have the relative regulations so changed as to enable the Hospitals Department to remove from the list of recommending officers any person who did not exercise his powers in a fit and proper manner. It was suggested that the Association could itself solve this problem by merely informing the offending recommending officers of this fact. This was *Noted* by Council.

120. *Staffing of New South Rand Hospital:* It was reported that

the Southern Transvaal Branch had requested the Committee to approach the Provincial Administration with a view to general practitioners having the opportunity of participating in the clinical work of this hospital in many of its departments; also, that provision should be made for all doctors to be allowed to treat private cases in the hospital as did their colleagues in Pretoria and the Platteland. It was reported that in an interview with the Director of Hospitals it had been stated by the Director that he could see no reason why the requests of the Association could not be met. It was probable that 200 beds would be set aside for hospital patients and approximately 165 beds for private patients. Later it had been stated that only 120 beds might be required for teaching and that a further 80 beds would become available for private patients. It was reported that the Director of Hospitals had agreed in principle to the idea of general practitioners being on the staff of the hospital.

Some discussion followed, and eventually Council *Agreed* that this item be *Noted*.

121. *Facilities for the Treatment of His Private Patients in the Pretoria General Hospital by a Non-European Doctor*: It was reported that a non-European doctor practising in Pretoria had been refused permission to treat patients in a non-European ward, owing to the fact that the ward was in the charge of a European nursing sister. As this was no longer the case, the doctor had renewed his application. The doctor had been advised to persist in his application to the Pretoria Hospital Board and that if the necessary permission was withheld, he should lodge an appeal against the decision with the Administrator. *Noted*.

122. *Treatment of Mental Hospital Patients in Public Hospitals*: It had been reported to the Committee that whereas Mental Hospital patients, who had required treatment in a public hospital, had previously been admitted as Departmental patients under a private doctor, they were now being admitted as hospital patients with a recommendation form issued by the Superintendent of the Mental Hospital concerned. Investigation had shown that these patients were entitled to free treatment if they were normally resident in the Province and provided that all the other requirements relating to the admission of a patient as a hospital patient were complied with. It was explained that a 'Departmental patient' was one who, by virtue of his employment in the service of any Department of State, was entitled to medical or hospital treatment at the expense of such Department. Mental Hospital patients did not come into this class.

In the circumstances the Committee recommended to Council that no further action be taken. Council *Agreed*.

Dr. Struthers then moved the adoption of his Report, which was *Carried*.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

123. *Appointment of New Augmented Executive Committee in the Transvaal*: After short discussion, Council *Agreed* that the new Committee consist of Dr. J. H. Struthers, Dr. E. W. Turton, Dr. Lewis S. Robertson, Dr. F. Ziady, Dr. M. Shapiro and Mr. D. E. Mackenzie.

124. *Report of Augmented Executive Committee in the Cape*: The Chairman of the Committee, Dr. Sichel, reported that there had been no meetings of the Liaison Committee between the Medical Association and the Administration since the last meeting of Council.

The question of the termination of the honorary system of medical staffing of the hospitals in Port Elizabeth had not yet been settled.

Dr. Albert elaborated on the memorandum which his Branch had submitted, and it was reported that the Director of Hospital Services in the Cape had stated that he had received no complaints from the men who were dissatisfied and from the Livingstone Hospital Board, and that as soon as he received something from them he would be prepared to act.

Dr. Sichel then moved the adoption of his Report, which was *Carried*.

125. *Appointment of New Augmented Executive Committee in the Cape*: Council generally *Agreed* that the new Committee should consist of Dr. A. W. S. Sichel, Mr. J. D. Joubert, Mr. J. A. Currie, Dr. R. Schaffer, Dr. L. E. Lane and Mr. N. Kretzmar.

126. *Report of Augmented Executive Committee in Natal*: Council *Noted* that there was no Report from this Committee.

It was *Agreed* that the Natal Augmented Executive Committee

in the future would consist of Dr. H. Grant-Whyte and Mr. B. A. Armitage.

127. *Report of Augmented Executive Committee in Orange Free State*: The Chairman of the Committee, Dr. Theron, presented this Report and stated that at last the Provincial Administration had agreed to give the Medical Association representation on the Boards of Provincial Hospitals. In each area there would be two representatives of the Association appointed by the Administrator from a panel of names to be submitted. *Noted*.

Council *Agreed* that Dr. Theron should act for the Executive Committee in the Orange Free State and that he would have the power to co-opt members of his Branch Council when necessary.

Council adjourned for dinner from 6.15 p.m. to 8.30 p.m.

ECONOMICS OF MEDICAL PRACTICE

On resuming, Dr. Struthers was in the Chair.

129. *Sub-Committee on Economics of Medical Practice*: Dr. Struthers drew attention to the Report of this Sub-Committee which had been published in the *Journal*, and for the sake of new members of the Council he gave a brief resumé of what had taken place during the last few years. He asked Dr. Turton to continue the explanation of the scheme as put forward by the Committee.

Grateful thanks were expressed for the assistance given to the Committee by Dr. Routley during his visit to the Union.

Considerable discussion took place as to the merits of the scheme, several questions being asked as to how it was to be financed.

Eventually Dr. Sichel asked questions as to the part which the Association was expected to play in the launching of this scheme, and particularly asked whether the Association would be expected to become financially involved in it. Dr. M. Shapiro replied, 'My suggestion is, if the scheme is launched, it shall involve not one farthing's responsibility to the Association. I am quite satisfied that the scheme can be launched without any assistance from the Association, except one thing—its sponsorship. That is all it needs from the Association. The doctors who are to benefit incidentally from the scheme if it is established are the people who should take on the financial responsibility in the first instance.'

Dr. Sichel requested that this statement be recorded. Council *Agreed*.

Mr. McMurray drew attention to a Notice of Motion put forward by himself and Mr. Joubert. Both he and his seconder agreed that this should now fall away in view of Dr. M. Shapiro's statement. Council *Agreed*.

The Chairman then suggested that a vote be taken in regard to the principles embodied in the Plan as submitted. This was done and it was *Carried* with two dissentient votes.

Dr. Struthers moved the adoption of the Report of the Sub-Committee, which was *Carried*.

130. *Appointment of Sub-Committee on Economics of Medical Practice*: The Chairman proposed that the Federal Council members of the Southern Transvaal Branch should constitute the Sub-Committee, with powers to co-opt. After short discussion, Council *Agreed*.

131. *Serving of Tea*: Dr. J. H. L. Shapiro proposed a vote of thanks to the ladies who had provided morning, afternoon and, on two occasions, evening tea, for members of Council. This was accorded with *Acclamation*, and Dr. Shapiro was asked to convey the thanks of Council personally to the ladies concerned.

At the request of the Chairman, Dr. Turton then took the Chair, and Council *Agreed* that only such matters as were urgent and important should be considered during the rest of the evening session. Dr. Turton stated that the matters remaining on the Agenda would be taken seriatim and Council would decide whether to deal with them or refer them to the Executive Committee for attention. Council *Agreed*.

132. *S.A. Medical Congress, Durban, 1957*: The Chairman of the Organising Committee, Dr. Broomburg, reported that arrangements were well in hand. He made a number of announcements and appealed to members to support the Trades Exhibition and take as much interest in it as possible. He said that he and his Committee were confident that the Congress would be a very happy and successful one.

Dr. Broomburg's report was *Noted with Acclamation*.

133. *"Medical Centres"*: A letter from the Registrar of the S.A. Medical and Dental Council was submitted regarding buildings which were being used for consulting room purposes and named

'Medical Centres'. The opinion of the Association was requested.

Council *Agreed* that this matter be referred to the Executive Committee with power to act.

Matters Referred to or by Branches:

134. *Application of Federal Council Rules to S.A.R. & H. Sick Fund Specialist Services—Cape Western Branch:* Council *Agreed* that consideration of this matter be deferred until its next meeting.

135. *Registration of Plastic Technologists—Cape Western Branch:* Council *Agreed* that consideration of this matter be deferred until its next meeting.

136. *Delimitation of Branch Areas—East Rand Branch:* Council *Agreed* that this matter be deferred until its next meeting.

137. *Cadaver Material for Grafting Purposes—Southern Transvaal Branch:* A letter from the Branch was submitted, and Mr. Wolfowitz explained that the Act as it stood allowed surgeons to take no portion of the human anatomy whatever. He proposed that an urgent appeal be made by the Parliamentary Committee to the Minister of Health for an amendment of the Act in order that medical science in this country could keep abreast of the world in this matter. He was seconded by Mr. McMurray, and Council *Agreed* accordingly.

138. *Artificial Insemination—Southern Transvaal Branch:* A number of memoranda and documents had been submitted to Council by the Branch. The Secretary stated that the Executive Committee recommended that the Southern Transvaal Branch be referred to the resolution on this subject taken at the Council meeting held in October, 1956. Council *Agreed* to the Executive Committee's recommendation.

139. *Title of 'Physician and Surgeon'—Southern Transvaal Branch:* Council *Agreed* that this matter be deferred until its next meeting.

140. *Fees for Completion of Medical Questionnaires for Insurance Companies:* Correspondence on this subject was submitted, and the Secretary stated that the Executive Committee recommended to Council that the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada be advised through the Southern Transvaal Branch to take up this matter with the Life Offices' Association.

Council *Agreed* to the recommendation of the Executive Committee.

Matters Referred to or by Groups:

141. *Amendments to Constitution of Medical Officers of Health Group:* The Secretary reported that the Executive Committee had considered the suggested amendments and recommended to Council that they be approved. Council *Agreed*.

Matters Referred to or by Affiliated Associations:

142. *British Medical Association Annual Meeting, July 1957:* The President, Dr. Grant-Whyte, reported that he had represented the Association at the Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association held in Newcastle-on-Tyne in July, 1957. After mentioning certain aspects of the Meeting, he said that in every way it had been a magnificent affair. His report was *Noted* by Council.

143. *Tenth Australasian Medical Congress, Hobart, 1-7 March 1958:* The Chairman asked whether it was known whether any member would be visiting Australia at the time of the Meeting, who could be appointed as the Association's representative. No replies were received, and it was left to the Secretary to make such suitable arrangements as might be possible.

Matters Referred to or by World Medical Association:

144. *Medical Civil Defence Emblem:* A copy of the Medical Civil Defence Emblem, suggested by the World Medical Association

to have world-wide recognition, was submitted together with a memorandum to which reference was made. The Secretary stated that the Executive Committee recommended to Council that the Medical Civil Defence Emblem of the World Medical Association be adopted and that it be submitted to the Department of Health in order to obtain official Governmental recognition. Council *Agreed*.

Miscellaneous:

145. *Physiotherapists and Specialists in Physical Medicine:* A letter from the S.A. Society of Physiotherapists was submitted, and Council *Agreed* that the letter be referred to the Group of Specialists in Physical Medicine and that the matter be discussed at the next meeting of Council.

146. *Training of Health Visitors:* A letter and memorandum were submitted from the S.A. National Council for Child Welfare. The Secretary stated that the Executive Committee recommended to Council that the matter be referred to the Medical Officers of Health Group and the Pediatricians' Group, and that the Executive Committee be empowered to take such action as was necessary based on the recommendations of the two Groups. Council *Agreed*.

147. *S.A. National Council for Marriage Guidance and Family Life—Appointment of a Representative:* A circular letter was submitted from the Organising Secretary of the S.A. National Council for Marriage Guidance and Family Life. After short discussion Council *Agreed* that Dr. H. Penn be the Association's representative.

148. *Use of Substitutes of Ethical Products:* A letter was submitted from the Chairman of the Ethical Drug Association. Council *Agreed* that consideration of this matter be deferred until its next meeting.

149. *Pensions for Self-Employed Persons:* A letter and memorandum were submitted from the Secretary of the Cape Society of Accountants and Auditors. The Secretary stated that the Executive Committee recommended to Council that the Association support the principles contained in the memorandum of the Joint Council of Societies of Chartered Accountants and make suitable representations to the Minister of Finance accordingly. Council *Agreed*.

150. *Mines Benefit Society—Appointment of Thoracic Surgeon:* After short discussion Council *Agreed* that this matter be referred to the Executive Committee, and that Dr. Agranat be invited to be present in order to present evidence to the Committee.

NEXT MEETING OF COUNCIL

151. *Date and Place of Next Meeting:* On behalf of the Southern Transvaal Branch, Dr. Agranat invited Council to meet next in Johannesburg. Dr. Ziady, President of the Northern Transvaal Branch, also extended an invitation to Council to meet in Pretoria.

Council *Agreed* that the next meeting be held in Johannesburg and that the dates of the meeting be left to the Executive Committee for decision.

152. *Late Dr. M. Peskin:* The Chairman reported to Council that Dr. M. Peskin had passed away since the last meeting of Council.

Council *Agreed* that a letter of sympathy be addressed to the late Dr. Peskin's family by the Secretary on behalf of Council.

153. *Thanks:* Dr. Sichel proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman and to the Deputy Chairman. This was *Carried with Acclamation*.

The meeting ended at 10.45 p.m.