

Minutes of the First meeting of the New South Wales
Branch of the Australian Society for Microbiology.

The meeting opened at 7.35 p.m. on Monday, 10th August, 1959, in the Stewart Lecture Theatre, School of Veterinary Science, University of Sydney.

Dr. W.J. Scott took the Chair, and apologies were received from Dr. Gelderworthy, Prof. Barne, Dr. Faine, Dr. Fisher and Dr. Brown.

The Chairman briefly reviewed the earlier meetings which had been held in conjunction with the formation of the N.S.W. Branch, and then called on Prof. Ralph to present a report of the residential conference held in Melbourne in May. Prof. Ralph emphasized the success of the Melbourne meeting from the point of view of the interest and enjoyment of those participating and he then went on to discuss the deliberations which had taken place over the constitution and By-Laws of the new Society. Prof. Ralph pointed out that the Third Draft Constitution had been approved by a meeting of State representatives and adopted by a general meeting in Melbourne in May. Under these circumstances, no alterations could now be made to the constitution until a general meeting of Federal Council.

This meeting would take place during ANZAAS in Perth later in August.

In further discussing the constitution, Prof. Ralph pointed out that in his opinion the strength of this Society would be

dependent on the activities of the various State branches. Prof. Ralph mentioned that Melbourne meeting had elected as Officers of an interim Council the following:

Sir Macfarlane Burnet, President;
Mrs. Jack Harris, Honorary Secretary;
Dr. Nancy Atkinson, Honorary Treasurer.

The Chairman presented an opportunity for the Meeting to ask questions with regard to any features of the Constitution. A question was asked concerning the initial election of Vice-President of the Society.

The Chairman then proceeded to item (ii) on the agenda, viz. the election of Officers of the N.S.W. Branch of the Society.

Motion 1. That the N.S.W. Committee consist of a Chairman, an Hon. Secretary, an Hon. Treasurer, three members of Committee, and an Hon. Auditor, with power to co-opt. Moved by Mrs. Ferguson Wood, seconded Dr. Rountree, carried.

Nomination of Officers: At this stage, Dr. Scott vacated the Chair, which was taken by Mrs. Ferguson Wood, who called for nominations for Chairman of the N.S.W. Branch. Dr. Scott was nominated by Prof. Ralph, seconded by Mrs. Barbour. Dr. Scott was declared elected.

On resuming the Chair, Dr. Scott called for nominations for the position of Hon. Secretary. Dr. Bhushan was nominated by Dr. Ferguson Wood,

seconded by Mr. Barbour. Dr. Christian was declared elected.

The Chairman called for nominations for the position of Hon. Treasurer. Mr. Dorman was nominated by Prof. Ralph, seconded by Mr. Bloomfield, and was declared elected.

The Chairman called for nominations for the positions of Committee members, (three required). Prof. Ralph, Dr. Rountree and Dr. Sherwood were nominated by Mr. Ferguson Wood, seconded by Mr. Bloomfield. Mr. W. Lawrence was nominated by Dr. Lindtner, seconded by Dr. Murrell. Dr. Kramer was nominated by Miss Larkin and seconded by Dr. Hunt. Nominations were closed & Mr. Charlton and Dr. Hunt appointed as scrutineers for the ensuing ballot. As a result of the ballot, Dr. Rountree, Dr. Sherwood and Prof. Ralph were elected.

The Chairman called for nominations for the position of Hon. Auditor. Mr. Charlton was nominated by Mr. Ferguson Wood, seconded by Mr. Dorman. Mr. Charlton was declared elected.

Nomination of N.S.W. Delegate to Federal Council:

Motion (ii): That the Chairman be nominated as delegate to Federal Council.

Moved by Mr. Ferguson Wood, seconded by Mr. Dorman. Carried.

Finance:

Motion (iii): That the N.S.W. Branch

subscription be equal to the Federal subscription.
Moved by Mr. Ferguson Wood, seconded by Dr.
Reumtree. Carried.

Motion (iv): That the interim subscription
be £ one pound. Moved by Dr Reumtree,
seconded by Prof Ralph. Carried.

Motion (v): That Mr. Forman be reimbursed
the sum of £5-9-8 for postage and
receipt books, and that the sum of £5
(five pounds) be placed in petty cash.
Moved by Mr. Ferguson Wood, seconded
by Mr. Bloomfield. Carried.

The Chairman then proceeded
to item 3 on the agenda, viz. a
discussion of the activities of the N.S.W.
Branch. He emphasised the need for
active participation of members for the
success of the Branch. Dr. Scott
then drew attention to the representation
of various institutions on the current
mailing list of the N.S.W. Branch.

TOTAL	UNIVERSITIES	GOVT (INCL CSIRO)	INDUSTRY	HOSPITALS
107	38	38	21	20

TOTAL	MEDICAL/DENTAL	VETERINARY	INDUSTRIAL	GENERAL
107	24	21	18	44

The Chairman stressed the need for
members to notify all interested persons
of the activities of the Society.

The Chairman then asked for
suggestions regarding (1) the frequency
(2) the time and (3) the place of subsequent

meetings, and, in so doing, mentioned that the Society was indebted to Prof. Berne for the use of the present lecture theatre. Mr. Ferguson Wood supported the suggestion of monthly meetings. Prof. de Burgh suggested that enquiries be made with regard to the number of people willing to present papers to meetings of the Society. Prof. Ralph suggested the formation of a Programme Sub-Committee to establish programmes at least six months in advance. Prof. Ralph also drew attention to the large number of laboratory technicians and assistants who were potential members.

These people could actively contribute to the vigour of the Society. Referring to the type of programme, Prof. Ralph suggested the need for variety in this regard. The Chairman then raised the possibility of holding a residential congress of the Australian Society for Microbiology in Sydney in May, 1960.

Dr Rountree stated that the Women's College would be available for a residential meeting and could provide accommodation for approx. 100 members.

Motion (vi): That the Committee proceed with negotiations to hold a residential conference in Sydney in May, 1960. Moved by Prof. de Burgh, seconded by Mr. Charlton. Carried.

The Chairman asked whether any person present would be able to act as

proxy for the N.S.W. delegate to the Federal Council meeting in Perth in the last week of August. Dr Knox consented to act as proxy, provided the Australian Society for Microbiology meeting did not coincide with an ANZAS Committee meeting. Mr. Ferguson Wood mentioned that the Bromella laboratories of the C.S.I.R.O. would be available for meetings of the N.S.W. Branch of the Society. Mr. Dorman mentioned the offer of Mr. Gripp (Water Board) to make available the laboratories of the Water Board for meetings of the Society.

Dr. Knox stated that the Australian Journal of Science would be willing to make available space for reports of meetings of the Society.

Dr. Christian moved a vote of thanks to the interim committee for their earlier activities in the matters of the Constitution and the forming of the N.S.W. Branch. Carried by acclamation.

The Chairman thanked Dr. Christian on behalf of the interim committee.

The meeting closed at 9-10 pm. Supper was served in the Common Room.

W. J. Scott
Sept 14 1959.