

P.O. TELEPHONE  
422 MAYFAIR.

BEDFORD COLLEGE FOR WOMEN,  
(UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.)

YORK PLACE,  
BAKER STREET,  
W.

At a meeting of the Hygiene Committee on Thursday,  
February 6th, 1908, at 4.30 p.m., Present:-

- The Principal
- Dr Brincker
- Mr Crompton
- Dr Edkins
- Miss Holmer
- Miss Ravenhill
- Miss Whitworth
- Mr Womack
- The Secretary.

1. The Principal was unanimously elected to the Chair.
2. The Principal stated that there were two points for the Committee to consider, viz. (1) whether the College should offer a course in Hygiene, somewhat different to that now offered, suitable for those who wish to teach the subject in Schools; (2) whether the present course could be developed so as more fully to meet the needs of those in training for the various kinds of Inspectorships.
3. With regard to (1), Miss Holmer reported that inquiries made by her tended to show that the subject as yet received little attention, and that of the most elementary sort, in most secondary schools. Miss Ravenhill confirmed this view, but added that the stress now laid by the Board of Education on improved teaching of applied Science in Schools was certain to lead to more teaching of Hygiene in Elementary Training Colleges and hence would result a demand for more teachers of the subject. As these Training Colleges did not care to make use of visiting teachers, they would require their own staff to qualify in Hygiene. The demand for it in Schools would also increase.

Discussion followed as to the possibility of including the subject in the ordinary Training Course, it seemed likely that as long as the examining bodies do not lay much stress on Hygiene, there would be little opening for this. Dr Edkins pointed out that for teachers already qualified in Chemistry and Physics, only Hygiene and Physiology need be provided. The possibility of Hygiene being taught in Schools by teachers of Physical Training was not considered to be a serious one, as the Physical Training Colleges do not consider their students qualified to undertake this subject. The Committee recognised the difficulty of framing a course that would serve for students who had some knowledge of Science and for those who had none. It was suggested that a course for teachers, to be given out of school hours might be popular, and it was resolved that a sub-committee, consisting of Miss Ravenhill, Miss Holmer, and Dr Edkins, should be asked to frame a scheme which should, in the first instance, be suitable for those who wished to teach Hygiene, and who had some preliminary scientific knowledge, approximately the standard of the Intermediate B.Sc., the course to be given out of school hours; the Sub-Committee were authorised to communicate with the L.C.C. with a view to discovering whether the L.C.C. would give support to such a course, if it were found possible to offer it at the College.

4. With regard to (2), Miss Whitworth stated that the present Hygiene course did not meet the needs of those training to be factory inspectors, in the following respects.

Factory Inspectors need more knowledge of Applied Hygiene, e.g. ventilation, which the present course treats in two lectures only. They also need a much fuller knowledge of Industrial and Social Legislation, and should have learnt something of the Law of Evidence. An elementary acquaintance with social problems, such as could be given in a short course of lectures, would be of value. They also need some lectures on Diseases of

Occupation. For those who meant to be Sanitary Inspectors, some knowledge of nursing was desirable, while so much law was not essential. Both require more of plan-drawing and building construction than the present course given.

The Committee considered these suggestions. It was recognised that lectures on some of the subjects might be of use to women who were intending to take up work on Municipal and other bodies, but that the demand for them would be uncertain. The Principal suggested that it might be possible to frame a four terms' course which would enable more subjects to be fitted in.

Resolved that a sub-committee, consisting of Miss Whitworth Dr Brincker, and Mr Womack, should be asked to consider these suggestions and to frame, if possible, a course which should include more instruction in Legislation, Diseases of Occupation, and plan-drawing, and in which opportunity might be given to students to learn something of nursing.

5. The Committee agreed to meet again on March 18th, at 4.30. to receive the reports of the sub-committees.