

principal Act so as to impose on Local Authorities the duty of providing suitable training or occupation for defectives, whether under supervision or guardianship, or in certified institutions. In some instances defectives, who would otherwise need institutional treatment, may properly be dealt with by way of supervision or guardianship if suitable training or occupation is provided for them. In order to meet cases where there may be adequate reasons for not providing training or occupation for defectives under supervision, a proviso is included in the Act under which Local Authorities are relieved from the obligation if they satisfy the Board that the reasons are adequate.

Section 7 also imposes on the Board the duty of exercising a general superintendence over the training and occupation of defectives.

8. Section 8 provides that joint Committees constituted under Section 29 of the principal Act shall be bodies corporate, that they shall have perpetual succession and a common seal, and that they may hold land for the purpose of their powers and duties without licence in mortmain.

9. Section 9 amends Section 44 of the principal Act, which relates to the determination of residence. The operation of that Section has occasioned some injustice in certain areas where public or charitable institutions have been established and cases of mental defect occurring therein have become chargeable on the Local Authority of the area, irrespective of the patient's original place of residence. Section 9 of the new Act is designed to remove this difficulty by providing that where an Order under the Mental Deficiency Act is made in respect of a person in an institution, his place of residence for the purpose of Section 44 shall be deemed to be the place which was his place of residence immediately before he was received into the institution.

10. Section 10 specifically provides that a Local Authority may receive into its own certified institution defectives from any other Local Authority. It also enables an Authority, which is both the Local Education Authority and the Mental Deficiency Authority, to provide an institution to be used both for a certified institution under the Mental Deficiency Act and for a certified school under the Education Act, 1921.

I am, Sir,
Yours obedient servant,
F. J. WILLIS,
Chairman.

*To the Clerk
to each Local Authority under the Mental Deficiency Acts in England and Wales.*

GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

Mental Nursing Committee.—Mr. Blackman, Miss Brown, Miss Bushby, Miss Cowlin, Dr. Fawcett, Lady Galway, Miss Hogg, Dr. Worth.

OBITUARY.

SIR DAVID FERRIER, LL.D., D.Sc., M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.S.

Honorary Member since 1895, died March 19, 1928.

(A full obituary with photograph will appear in the July issue of the Journal.)

ALEXANDER LAWRENCE, M.A., M.D. Aberd.,

Once Medical Superintendent, Cheshire County Mental Hospital, Upton, Chester.
Ordinary Member since 1870.

There died at Chester, on November 23, 1926, in the person of Dr. Alexander Lawrence, one of the few members remaining of those who joined the Association in the '70's. The news of his decease only reached us recently else this obituary notice would not have been so long delayed. For many particulars regarding his life we are indebted to Mr. Vincent Williams, County Accountant of Cheshire, who has also supplied us with a copy of the *Banffshire Journal* of November 30,