

WOMEN PLEAD FOR A SURGERY AT THE YEALM

The need is urgent!

THE question of a doctor's surgery at Newton Ferrers has been raised by the Parish Council, and a Public Meeting, when the necessity for such a surgery was proved beyond doubt. Since that time the question of a third doctor has been discussed, also a Yealmpton Health Centre, but these would not obviate the difficulties of transport to and from Newton and Noss.

This question was raised at the monthly meeting of the Women's Institute last week, when the following true facts were given, causing further concern amongst the members, who feel the real needs are being completely ignored. It was therefore decided to write an official letter from the Women's Institute to the Minister of Health, as follows:—

We, the undersigned members of the Newton Ferrers and Noss Mayo Women's Institute, hereby petition for a resident doctor in the village.

It is a great hardship for many people, especially the elderly, to have to go to Yealmpton and pay bus fares. For many it means a walk up a long hill in all weathers to reach the bus stop.

Evidence can be provided to show that people have been forced to walk back the three-four miles in wet weather, having just missed the return bus through no fault of their own.

● On one occasion, a mother with a young baby almost fell, having had to run for the bus which had already moved off.

● Again, a lady with a heart complaint had to run, shouting to the conductor to stop, though she had

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been told by her doctor never to run. The alternative, to wait one hour in a bleak area with nowhere to shelter or rest.

● The local councillor herself found two patients preparing to walk, and gave them a lift back.

● There are also visiting yachtsmen and their families to be considered.

Surely the need is urgent!

(Sgd.) V. Ponsford, A. Pooley, J. Brierley, C. Skentlebury, P. Lineham, E. Marshall, C. Blackford, N. Roseveare, M. Gibson, B. W. Farleigh, W. M. Harmon, F. E. White, E. Baker, D.

Townsend, L. Hoskin, L. Cosham, E. M. Anderson, P. Macdonald, E. M. Knight, K. Hart, T. M. Davis, E. M. Weir, G. E. M. Tamlin, L. Bennetts, M. V. Hockaday, V. Mashford, M. E. Bate, B. Day, A. Crossley, C. Ravenscroft, F. Marston, J. Fulman, M. Finch, R. Crabb, W. Foster, M. Shepherd.

One can only hope that some pressure can be brought to bear on the Minister of Health, and to this end the women of Newton and Noss intend to pursue the matter vigorously until something is done to alleviate the dissatisfaction of the residents—particularly those without transport.

It is also intended to seek the help of the County Executive of the W.I. to see if they can add weight to our appeal.

Mrs. P. MACDONALD
Hon. Sec.

Newton Ferrers and
Noss Mayo W.I.

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