

I shall be glad if the Hon. the Chief Secretary will communicate this minute to the Hospital Board—

1. Referring to the paragraph in to-day's *Register* headed "The Hospital Trouble."—This, so far as any attempted revelations of the nature of the negotiations between the Government and the late honorary staff are concerned, is a distinct breach of the honorable understanding under which these negotiations proceeded.

2. Bad as the above is it is still worse to find it put that it was a term stipulated for by me "that the board should for the time being remain as at present, but that alterations might be made later on." This is simply another way of saying that I contemplated the displacement of some member of the board at some future time to make room for a new comer.

3. I desire to assure the board that there is not one iota of truth in this monstrous suggestion, and for its more complete exposure and my vindication I must shortly state the facts.

4. Every suggestion for any action of the kind suggested was instantly and indignantly rejected by me, and the position was put most clearly that the Government would always desire to continue on the board the services of the ladies and gentlemen at present constituting it who had so disinterestedly labored for the public good and in the interests of the institution under most trying circumstances. It was put most plainly that so long as the Government existed an effort would be made to induce these ladies and gentlemen to continue on the board.

5. I cannot conceive how the matter has come to be so grossly misstated, unless it arose out of the following:—In the course of the negotiations I was brought into contact with one of the most distinguished and honorable men in the medical profession. Not only did he labor unceasingly and disinterestedly for the conclusion of an honorable peace, but with the utmost candor he more than once assured me that having looked into the matter there was nothing whatever in the charges of incompetency brought against Dr. Napier. He was in no way connected with any of the present staff, and on one occasion I did not hesitate to say in the presence of a third party that if peace were restored and there were a vacancy on the Hospital Board which no member of the existing board were willing to fill, nothing would give the Government greater pleasure than as a mark of their goodwill towards the profession generally to appoint such a representative man to the vacancy.

6. I make this explanation to the board as I feel that they have a right to expect the utmost loyalty on the part of the Government. I resent the imputation on the Ministerial good faith which is attempted to be cast by the paragraph in question, and I feel sure that I have said sufficient for the purpose of exposing its utter fallacy and of assuring the continuance of mutual respect between the board and the Government.

The CHAIRMAN said he was pleased that the Premier had sent that minute, because it was due to the board that some explanation should be given. The Premier, with leading doctors and himself, had worked hard to bring about a settlement. He had worked very hard and had devoted a good many nights to the question, and was very disappointed at the failure.

Mr. MORRIS asked if there had been anything in the negotiations which led the chairman to suppose that the Premier had any intention of acting in the manner suggested towards the members of the board.

The CHAIRMAN—No; not in any shape or form. The Premier had opposed and put away any such idea. It was never suggested by the Premier, who never for a moment entertained the idea of such a thing. He said that in fairness to the Premier, because so far as he knew, and he was at a good many of the meetings, Mr. Kingston never suggested and never entertained any idea of anything of the kind.

PROFESSOR WATSON.

The SECRETARY read a minute from the Government stating that at a meeting of the Executive Council held that morning the removal of Professor Watson from his position in the hospital had been approved.

NEW HOSPITAL DOCTORS.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK said after hearing the report of the chairman the first thing that occurred to him was that the thanks of the board were due to him for the amount of trouble and time he had devoted to the work of trying to bring about a settlement between the parties to the so called hospital dispute. (Hear, hear.) After the letter they had heard read from the Premier in reference to the imputation made in one of the newspapers, if there was any doubt on the point before, although he was sure there was not, it had been removed. The board were satisfied as to the loyalty of the Premier, and they did not believe that any such suggestion

was ever made by him, or that he made any promise of the kind spoken of. They knew the Premier well enough to believe that, though he might have faults like everyone else, he at least had not the fault of disloyalty. That was something the Premier was never charged with, and those who knew him best knew how to regard the suggestion made in the paper in question. They all regretted that the trouble that had been taken by representatives of both parties had not resulted satisfactorily, but those who endeavored to bring about conciliation, and especially those on the other side who were willing for a settlement, were deserving of their best thanks. They could not forget that the board and the Government had for three or four weeks taken no further action in connection with the future working of the institution, and at great sacrifice on the part of the medical gentlemen who had the responsibility of carrying on the institution in the

The Register.

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THE MEDICAL SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.

During the Reign of Terror in France some of the celebrated Professors of the University of Paris went on arranging for their experiments and lectures just as if the introduction of political animus into the serene regions of learning had not already begun to bring the whole fabric raised by the labour of hundreds of years tumbling about their ears. As a matter of fact, the overthrow of the University was very shortly afterwards consummated, and until last week, when the reopening ceremony took place, it has since then had neither name nor local habitation. To-day the Senate of the highest seat of learning in Adelaide, acting in the spirit of the fearless French Professors to whom we have referred, will discuss, with a view to adoption, a series of regulations framed in hopefulness and in faith by men who are confident that the common-sense of the people of South Australia, in spite of political manœuvring and party rancour, will preserve to the colony so admirable an institution as the Medical School. When we read, for instance, that fourth and fifth year students are still to be required to "attend diligently the medical and surgical practice of the Adelaide Hospital both in the wards and in the outpatients' department," we are driven to conclude that the authors of the regulations regard the present chaotic condition of affairs in connection with the school in its relations with the Hospital as merely