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to this extremely unsatisfactory state of things is a problem which has been engaging the serious attention of the University authorities, and at the last meeting of the Council a committee was appointed to act in concert with what may be termed the Standing Executive Committee of the Hospital. These two bodies held a conference on Thursday evening, when a series of suggestions were submitted and agreed to, which at all events have the merit of providing a means whereby existing difficulties in connection with the carrying on of the School may be surmounted. What is proposed is that three clinical lecturers shall be appointed to the charge of five wards, and that these lecturers, who are to be nominated by the University and approved by the Hospital Board and by the Government, shall constitute for the time being the Honorary Medical Staff. The intention is that two of the officers, physician and surgeon respectively, shall each have professional control of a male and female ward, and that the third shall have the direction of the ophthalmic ward. This will leave the gynæcological department, which is for the present being conducted by the specialist who has had it in hand for years, unprovided for, but it is thought probable that arrangements can be made

with the new Senior Resident Surgeon to undertake this important branch of surgical study.

At their meeting on Friday the Hospital Board by adopting the report of their committee gave in their adhesion to these recommendations, which are in due course to be submitted to the Government for sanction. Whether this will be granted remains to be seen, but it is only fair to point out that there are one or two preliminary points upon which Ministers are entitled to information before they can be expected to return a favourable answer. In the first place they will naturally want to know

whether there is a certainty that the proposals if officially approved will be carried out. In other words, are there three thoroughly qualified members of the profession willing to act as clinical lecturers upon the conditions mentioned? It is well known that the treatment meted out to the late honorary staff excited not only in the members of that body, but also in the minds of the great majority of their professional brethren, feelings of such profound indignation and disgust that there has been no inclination on the part of

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to take the ground that it will be objectionable to set up anything in the shape of an *imperium in imperio* in the establishment; but the inconsistency of the proceeding is not likely to deter the hon. gentlemen from raising the question. More than that, we frankly confess that the difficulty is one that should not be ignored. It is hardly likely that it will prove a real source of trouble, particularly as it is to be hoped that the proposed expedient will be only temporary, and that before long the system which worked so admirably during so many years will be revived; but it is certainly desirable that, as far as practicable, all risks of friction should be avoided. That the University authorities are determined to show that they are no parties to the deplorable dispute which has proved so disastrous to the Hospital is sufficiently indicated by the fact that they propose to utilize the services of the Senior Medical Surgeon on his arrival here. By the way, that gentleman's position and the position of his colleague, the Senior Physician, on their arrival in the colony will not be particularly enviable. They have seen fit, in disregard of all professional etiquette, to accept appointment in spite of the efforts to dissuade them from doing so on the ground that they are taking up sides against practically the whole of the medical fraternity of South Australia, and they cannot expect to be received by their brethren with open arms. In the choice phraseology of Unionism they are, as Mr. Kirkpatrick has taken pains to remind us, "blacklegs," and seeing that they have deliberately flouted the members of an honourable "Union" they must not be surprised if they meet with unsympathetic treatment. One of the officers originally appointed has, it will be seen, declined to face the ordeal before him, but a substitute has been found, and with

amazing alacrity the Board, without waiting for details as to age and general fitness, has endorsed the choice made in London. For their own sake every one must hope that both surgeon and physician will prove to be men of exceptional ability; in the interests of fair play every one must feel that Dr. Russell, who has done good service in the institution at a time of grave emergency, should without delay be confirmed in his position as Medical Superintendent; but for the sake of the patients present and prospective every one must also earnestly desire that the former order of things, or as near an approach to it as possible, will be speedily re-established.