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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 medical men to accept positions in which they feel they would be liable to have their motives impugned and their conduct misconstrued and misrepresented. Whether the existence of these feelings will prove an obstacle in the way of carrying out the scheme now propounded we are unable to say, but we sincerely hope that such will not be the case. The maintenance of the Medical School is a matter of national importance, and under present circumstances it will clearly be impracticable to carry it on satisfactorily unless some of the leading members of the profession carry on the work of instruction in connection with the Hospital. It is certain that the *esprit de corps* prevailing among those constituting the late honorary staff and among the great body of medical men is such that individual practitioners will not accept the offices in question unless with the concurrence of the profession generally; but there seems to be no sufficient reason for withholding this concurrence. Already, we are informed, some of the most prominent members of the late staff have let it be distinctly understood that while they are in accord with the suggestions of the University Council they will themselves stand aside so that others may receive the proposed appointments in the Medical School. It does not follow that the gentlemen nominated for the lectureships will be the same as formerly held

them, but it is, of course, essential that those selected should be men of the highest qualifications, "apt to teach," and zealous for the wellbeing of the school. Three such men having virtually free entrance to the Adelaide Hospital, together with two or three more who will be able to find suitable opportunity for illustrating their lectures in other institutions in the city, will serve the present purpose of the University and give a guarantee to the students that their interests will be properly safeguarded.

There is another point upon which the Government may fairly entertain some doubt, and in respect of which they will be pretty sure to require that satisfactory assurances shall be given them. What are to be the relations of the three clinical lecturers to the Hospital Board, and how will the discharge of their duties under the special arrangements recommended harmonize with the general management of the institution? It will be rather anomalous, no doubt, for the Premier, who has in the past interfered with the details of the working of the Hospital in such a way as to directly encourage a conflict of authority there, 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 ex-

pect 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.