

# THE ADELAIDE HOSPITAL.

## THE MEDICAL SCHOOL.

### THE WITHDRAWAL OF DR. BUCKLEY.

The Adelaide Board met for the ordinary meeting on Friday afternoon. There were present the Chairman, His Worship the Mayor of Adelaide; Hon. A. A. Kirkpatrick, M.L.C.; the Mayor of Port Adelaide, Mr. C. R. Morris; Messrs. C. Lyons, A. Spence, W. H. Wadey, and W. G. Coombs, Drs. Rogers and Curtis, and Mesdames Edwards, Parkin, Nicholls, and Cullen.

The SECRETARY read a letter from the Adelaide University, dated May 8, 1896, acknowledging the receipt of correspondence between the Government and the Hospital Board and the resolutions passed by the Board, and stating that the University had appointed a sub-committee to meet the sub-committee from the Hospital in reference to the Medical School.

The CHAIRMAN stated that the sub-committee appointed at the previous meeting met the representatives of the University on Thursday evening, and after a long conference unanimously arrived at an agreement to be recommended to the Board. They had prepared a report which embodied the whole of the correspondence, and he would ask the Secretary to read it.

The SECRETARY read the report from the sub-committee appointed to wait upon the authorities of the University in reference to the Medical School, in accordance with the resolution passed on May 1. The report, after detailing the correspondence and resolutions of the subject, stated—

That the sub-committee met the sub-committee of the University, consisting of the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Verco, Messrs. F. Ayers, and G. J. R. Murray, and after a lengthy conference the following suggestions were made:—"The University Committee think that for the purpose of efficiently maintaining the Medical School it is necessary that wards be set apart as follows for the instruction of the students:—One male and one female medical ward, one male and one female surgical ward, at least one ophthalmic ward. They think that for the present three gentlemen should have charge of these wards as clinical lecturers, these gentlemen to be nominated by the University Council subject to the approval of the Hospital Board. As to gynecology, the University Committee think that the instruction may be given by the specialist just appointed on the permanent staff. (Signed) J. A. Hartley, J. C. Verco, F. Ayers, and G. J. R. Murray." Your sub-committee beg to report that they were met by the representatives of the University, and it is the opinion of your committee that the suggestions made on behalf of the University are necessary for efficiently maintaining the Medical School. The nominations are yet to be made of the three members of the medical staff as clinical lecturers, and the names submitted for the approval of the Board, but this cannot be done until after the meeting of the Council of the University, to be held early next week. Your committee therefore recommends the Board to adopt the report.

The CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report. He mentioned that the two committees were unanimous in the matter, and it was the desire of both sides to maintain the Medical School in its full efficiency. If the report were carried out it would have that effect.

Mr. LYONS seconded. The conference was a full one, and the sub-committee were met in a fair way, and no conditions were laid down by the University to which the sub-committee could not agree.

Dr. CURTIS supported.

Mr. COOMBS asked if the clinical lecturers would act as the honorary staff.

The CHAIRMAN—Yes.

Mr. COOMBS—Then three wards will be set apart for them?

The CHAIRMAN—Yes.

Mr. COOMBS—How is that likely to affect the new appointments entered into in regard to the imported men?

The CHAIRMAN said that that matter had been dealt with by the sub-committee, and they found that it would not clash in any way at all. It was absolutely necessary for clinical instruction that the gentleman should have full control over the wards. It would be impossible for them to impart information if any other gentlemen had the working of the ward, and the men who delivered the lectures had not the cases thoroughly in hand. The recommendation was the only way possible, for it was impossible to mix the University lecturers with the resident staff. In the past the lecturers had control over more wards than was proposed to now give them. The question of appointing lecturers for a fixed time had not been considered.

The report was adopted.

Mr. C. LYONS moved—

That a copy of the above report be sent on to the Government with a recommendation that the same be approved subject to the names of the nominees of the University being subsequently approved by the Board before being finally recommended to the Government, it being understood that (a) the gentlemen nominated by the University as clinical lecturers on approval by the Board accept the posts and duties of members of the honorary staff; (b) the clinical lecturers as members of the honorary staff shall have in respect of their wards, in accordance with previous practice, all pre-existing facilities for instruction of students. He thought if these resolutions were passed they would have the approval of both parties of the University and, he ventured to think, of the Government, and that all possibilities of friction would be got rid of, and, what was the utmost and earnest wish of every member of the Board, confidence restored regarding the public and the Medical School. The fears of the parents of the students, who were now so anxious as to the welfare of the Medical School, would be allayed, and they would have no more of students seeking instruction in Melbourne and Sydney, but they would remain here, and confidence would be restored.

Dr. ROGERS seconded.

The Hon. A. KIRKPATRICK asked whether in previous appointments of a similar nature nominations came from the University, or whether applications were advertised for.

The SECRETARY said applications had always been called for to fill vacancies on the honorary staff quite irrespective of the University lectures. The University always had to see that there were sufficient lecturers in the Hospital for their purposes.

The Hon. A. KIRKPATRICK—Have they been nominated by the University?

The SECRETARY—As vacancies have occurred applications for Honorary Physicians or Honorary Surgeons, as the case may be, have been called by advertisement.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the course they were taking was thoroughly legal, and he hoped they would accept the proposition. The sub-committee, whom he thought the Board had every confidence in, had gone thoroughly into the matter, and spent a lot of time in preparing the report.

The motion was carried.

The CHAIRMAN said that he had had placed in his hands a cable message to the Chief Secretary from the Agent-General in London. It was dated London, 14th inst., and had arrived that day. It read as follows:—

Dr. Buckley backed out; influenced by Medical Defence Union. Ramsay Smith, M.B., M.C., B.Sc., Edinburgh, married, accepts appointment. Doctors sail if possible 5th June, or latest 12th June.—PLAYFORD.

The CHAIRMAN said the applications for this position were very numerous in London, and they were narrowed down to three. The Government preferred single men if possible on account of the question of quarters, and no doubt that was the reason why Dr. Buckley was chosen. Dr. Buckley having been influenced, as stated, by the Medical Defence Union, Dr. Ramsay Smith, perhaps a senior in years, and no doubt as good a man, had been recommended for the appointment. It was to be regretted that things had gone so far, but it was evident that they were to have Dr. Napier and Dr. Smith. To put them in order he thought it would be as well to recommend the Government to appoint Dr. Smith.

At the instance of Mr. Wadey, seconded by Dr. Curtis, a motion to this effect was carried.

Dr. ROGERS stated that Dr. Smith had one higher qualification than Dr. Buckley.

The Hon. A. KIRKPATRICK said under the circumstances he thought they could scarcely do anything else than take the course suggested. In view of the action of the Medical Defence Union it was necessary that some one should be appointed in place of the one the Union had called out. (Laughter.) A letter from the Government notifying the appointments of Dr. Napier and Dr. Buckley was allowed to stand over.

Mr. L. G. Brown wrote—

Pending a more satisfactory state as regards the management of your institution I regret having to withhold my annual subscription now due, but shall be most happy to forward same upon the assurance of its once more resuming its former satisfactory system.

It was decided to draw Mr. Brown's attention to the resolutions which had been carried in reference to the Medical School.

Mr. T. Dodd returned unopened a copy of the annual report sent to him, and endorsed it "I return this as I returned my Hospital orders, and dropped subscribing after thirty years as a subscriber." Received.

The Chairman was asked to enquire from the Government the reason why Dr. Russell's appointment had not been gazetted.

On the motion of Dr. ROGERS, seconded by Dr. CURTIS, it was decided to call for applications for the position of Dental Surgeon.

The Medical Superintendent's report for the two weeks ended May 14, 1896, was as follows:—Patients admitted, 72; discharged, 72; died, 11; now in Hospital, 213; out-patients treated, 560, of whom 109 were new. Causes of deaths—Miliary tuberculosis (2), cystitis nephritis (2), cerebral softening, febris enterica (2), carcinoma ventriculi, pernicious anæmia, pyæmia pneumonia. Twenty-five cases of typhoid fever in the institution.