

Referring to the University staff, you say in your letter of 31st May, "let us look at the other side of the Federation Act and Agreement. By its terms we were to have a staff of nineteen professors with a corresponding number of other instructors," and further on you say that this staff "has never been completely filled up."

It is true that by the Act a teaching staff is called for in some eighteen or possibly nineteen branches of learning, though nowhere is it prescribed as you say that there shall be nineteen teachers with the academic rank of professor. "Professors" as such are not mentioned and the very wording makes it clear to my mind that the object of the clause was to leave the State free to make such arrangements as would be most feasible, having regard to the essential thing, viz., the establishing of teaching facilities in these subjects. The question of the rank of the teacher may seem a minor one but I am forced to notice it because your argument proceeds upon the assumption that a professor in each case is called for.

Now I find that provision has already been made and the Act and Agreement complied with in every subject except Engineering, for which ample provision has been made in the School of Practical Science at the expense of the Province. What is still more important is the fact that not only has the Act been complied with, but that in some departments, *e.g.*, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, the teaching staff is, I venture to say, far in excess of what was contemplated at the time of the federation negotiations, and is besides actually in excess of the provision made for any University College subject. In view of these facts, your assertion that the "shortcomings have all fallen to the University side" is, in my opinion, unwarranted, so far as the staff is concerned.

When I turn to the matter of buildings and equipment, I find a still greater discrepancy between your assertion and the facts of the case. In your letter of 31st May, you say that in addition to the staff (the point I have just dealt with), "buildings and other equipments to be furnished which have only been partially provided." When we consider what has been done for the University departments since 1887, this charge is little short of astounding. If you will turn to the Agreement to which you have referred you will find in section 21 a description of the buildings contemplated which are as follows:—"A building suitable for a University Examination Hall, Senate rooms, Registrar's and other offices shall be erected * * ; additions to be made to the School of Science sufficient to afford proper accommodation for students in mineralogy, botany, and other subjects, and for the accommodation of the Museum, which should be removed from its present quarters in order to be more serviceable for science students."

What might be termed the minor requirements of this programme—Examination Hall, Senate Rooms, Registrar's and other offices—have been satisfactorily provided in the main building. As to the Science departments, the Agreement contemplated by a scheme of additions to the building their continuance in the School of Practical Science, where they then were. True, this programme has not been literally carried out, and fortunately so. Instead of a flat in the School of Science, Biology has been provided with a magnificent separate building. In like manner Chemistry, which was not even mentioned in the Agreement clause referred to, has been provided with a building unsurpassed on this continent in its accommodation and equipment. Although the department of Geology has not yet been provided for on the same liberal scale, yet, as you will admit, the arrangements made for the department by Vice-Chancellor Mulock, in the erection of the west wing of the Biological Building, were not only amply sufficient to meet the requirements of the Act and Agreement, but were deemed satisfactory to the Senate, and, if I am not mistaken, to yourself personally, at the time. I myself think that better provision for Mineralogy and Geology should be made in the near future, and this on account of the growing importance