

## Correspondence.

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### THE REORGANIZATION OF THE MEDICAL FACULTY, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO.

*To the Editor of ONTARIO MEDICAL JOURNAL.*

SIR,—In my first letter I dealt with some of the gross acts of injustice of the Committee on Medical Faculty. In my second letter I pointed out the financial aspect of the report. I shall now deal with some further topics on this question.

1. There is likely to be a falling-off in the income of the professors, due to a shrinkage in the total number of students attending the college. This income will be still further reduced, if the examiners demand pay for such work. The fees to examiners has been up for discussion in the past, and is likely to come up again. Indeed, there is some discontent on this now.

2. In my last letter I said that the Park Hospital scheme was in an unsatisfactory condition, and that if it did not materialize, the interests and progress of the Medical Faculty would be very seriously damaged. Now that most of the evidence is before the public, I think but very few will be inclined to censure the actions of the Vice-Chancellor, Mr. W. Mulock. He has given a great amount of his time and thought to this matter, and, if left alone, would likely work it out into a satisfactory termination. This being the case, it appears to me that there was little call for the following remark from the Chancellor, Hon. E. Blake, on commencement day, if he was referring to the Vice-Chancellor: "It may be suggested that to avoid factious counsels or opposition, to accomplish with rapidity desired ends, or to escape from apprehended difficulties, it is necessary to limit in practice the effective powers of the Senate, or to proceed by some crooked or covered way, rather than by the straight and public road." Perhaps the words "covered way" apply with greater aptitude to the reorganization of the Medical Faculty than to any other university event we have ever had. Had the Committee on Medical Faculty gone by the "public road," and allowed the work

of reorganizing to become known, many of the acts of injustice which the report contains would have been destroyed in the bud, and would not have borne the fruit that is so distasteful to all who love equity.

3. Someone may ask, would I abolish the Medical Faculty? My answer is, no. That the University of Toronto may become a great university is my earnest prayer, as it ought to be the prayer of every true and loyal university man. A Medical Faculty, well organized and wisely maintained, is a great source of strength to any university, and ours would be no exception to the rule. But, while this is true, it will not do to attempt to found a strong Medical Faculty on the five-year election plan. The staff must be permanent in order to be efficient. It will not do to put members of any faculty on trial by hearing evidence, and giving no chance for reply. It will not do for a great university to commit herself to acts of injustice that would put in the shade the autocratic and tyrannical acts of the Czar of all the Russias.

4. The Medical Faculty can be made great and useful by a far different course. If the faculty is to become worthy of an existence, every member on the staff must be treated with absolute justice. A great Medical Faculty can never be constructed on the basis which guarantees a junior lecturer five dollars per lecture, while a senior professor may receive nothing. A great faculty can never be constructed on the foundation where the staff have to do all the earning, but have absolutely no say in appointments nor in expenditures.

5. The words of Coleridge in his "Christabel" should never be forgotten, that "whispering tongues can poison truth;" and there is now abundant proof that a good many things were whispered that the whisperer would not have spoken aloud, for whisperers are cowards, as it has been truly said they are slanderers. We have in our midst at least one who has broken the commandment, "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour," and also that other great axiom of all justice, "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you."

6. It would be well for the Senate if it took to heart the memorable words of Lucian, "Kai gar poleis apothneskousin hosper anthropoi"—cities certainly perish as well as men. If the word