

To Council Electors.

Messrs. D'Avignon and Sanders may have been conscientious in upholding the claims of the teachers on the college staff, but if so, it is to be regretted that they carried the contention to such an extent as to divide the Council, and to support the Professors in a course of obstruction, which it is firmly believed would have been, but for their intervention, a thing of the past long ago.

When the Council undertook to change the old regulations of the college whereby the Professors were to receive all sums paid by students for lecture fees up to \$3,000 and the half of any excess amount, and proposed to pay Prof. Shuttleworth \$1800, Prof. Avison, \$1000, and Prof. Harrison \$900 (these amounts to be paid to each Professor by cheque issued by the Registrar in the usual way of business, instead of the old custom whereby Principal Shuttleworth engaged his subordinates, received the sum total due under the old arrangement, and paid them in proportion to the hours of service performed by each), the two first named Professors objected, as the College attendance was rapidly increasing under the improved facilities afforded for instruction, and the amounts which would accrue as their share would be therefor very much enhanced, Prof. Harrison alone assenting.

The Council passed a resolution affirming the proposed system of payment, and having in view the securing of contracts upon these lines. The contracts were then drafted and submitted to the three Professors; Prof. Harrison again being alone in agreeing to sign and perform the duties attached to his department to the best of his ability. Professors Shuttleworth and Avison refusing to sign the agreement, which they claimed was not in accordance with the resolution in Council. In order to meet that contention the contract was amended, and again was signature refused upon the same grounds as before. These Professors were then asked to draft an agreement upon the lines proposed in the resolution, as they understood it, and submit it to the Committee having the matter in charge. This they refused to do, and the result was that the difficulty came before the next meeting of the Council for settlement, where, after a great deal of discussion, the Professors agreed to perform the services then being performed by them, for the salary named, and upon that basis an understanding was arrived at.

The difficulty, however, had created by this time a tension of feeling between the Council and the staff, which was not in anywise diminished by the action of Prof. Shuttleworth in exposing in the *Canadian Pharmaceutical Journal*, weaknesses in the Pharmacy Act, and otherwise publishing private correspondence and interviews for the seeming purpose of lowering, in the estimation of the electors, those who were in the first and most responsible positions in the Council.

It was soon felt that the mutual confidence which should exist between the Council and its servants, in order to advance the reputation and interests of the College, was being lost; and that the journalistic action of Prof. Shuttleworth meant that he intended to inaugurate an opposition which would oust from office those who were endeavoring to make him, as a Professor, subject to their authority.

The Council seem to have realized the position of affairs fully, as they, at the next Council meeting, gave notice that the engagement existing with Professors Shuttleworth and Avison would terminate at the end of the year. This forced the fighting, and sides were taken. Messrs. Jeffrey and D'Avignon retired from the Council, leaving Messrs. Watters and Laurence nominal supporters of the claims of the Professors, and Mr. Sanders, as he had always been, an out and out opponent of the power in the Council, and the representative of those outside who could and would promote means to cripple its actions.

The notice to terminate the engagement and advertise for new Professors was carried in Council, and the fight continued. Journalistic verbiage flew hither and thither until the next meeting of Council, when a selection from those applying for the vacant positions was made. The selection at once strengthened the position of the Council, as they were enabled to show that first-class University men and skilled instructors were willing to accede to reasonable terms of contract; that the number of hours of instruction would be increased over 30 per cent.; that the course of instruction would more nearly conform to that given in more advanced colleges; that the instruction in practical work would be of the most thorough character; that four Professors would perform this work, and receive as remuneration 10 per cent. in advance of that now paid three; and, that the Council would pay its own, and govern its own, in accordance with the powers delegated by the electors.

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(To be continued.)