

## POLITICS AND THE C.A.M.C.

punished by dismissal from his post. He realizes that if he is dismissed the Service, he goes home, to a certain extent in disgrace, although his only crime may have been the pointing out of certain abuses in that Service to those responsible for its efficiency. Also, whilst he remains in the Service he is absolutely prevented, by the rules of military discipline, from publishing any criticism of it. It is not surprising, under such circumstances, that the ultimate result of these restrictions is that everything in the shape of healthy criticism is effectually suppressed. In other words, the strict enforcement of military discipline in a Medical Service places tremendous power in the hands of the executive of that Service, more especially as they possess autocratic control over the whole system of rewards and punishments. Such power as this can only be placed with safety in the hands of a man of exceptional probity and good judgment, and of sufficient strength of character to do what is just and right, irrespective of selfish or partisan considerations. If these qualities are wanting in the head of the Medical Service one can readily appreciate what injustice is likely to be done.

In conclusion, after nearly two years in the British Service, I should like to say that during the time