

CUS417/2.33

Cecil Chambers, H. A. Bruce to W.O.  
86 Strand, London, W.C. . . . . October 19th, 1916.  
(typewritten)

Dear Sir William,

In reply to your letter of the 15th October, I may state that the situation at the Duchess of Connaught Hospital at Taplow was placed in the hands of the Committee of Officers consisting of Colonel F. A. Reid, Colonel A. D. McRae, Major M. Alexander the Deputy Judge-Advocate-General, and myself. The officers at the hospital were examined under oath and after a very exhaustive enquiry, certain recommendations were made. As there was sufficient evidence to make it apparent that it was desirable in the interests of harmony and efficiency at the hospital that the matron should be changed, this matter, instead of appearing in the report was taken up directly by the President of the Board with General Jones and the situation explained to him. It was by the latter's authority that Miss Campbell was removed. I quite agree with her removal so nearly co-incident with that of the O.C. was unfortunate. However, this detail was not in our hands. You will see, from what I have stated that the Committee who assisted me in the general investigation of the Medical Service had nothing to do with the Taplow affair. Miss Campbell, I understand, has been given another position as matron, and I am quite sure that there will be no stain upon her character.

In regard to your seeing the findings of the Committee. I am sorry to say that I have not a copy, and therefore cannot comply with your request. I presume the findings, together with the report of the Committee are confidential were sent to the Sub-Militia Council. I really do not think that this report should be published, but there is no objection to your writing to Colonel A. D. McRae, the Deputy Minister of Militia & Defence, Cecil Hotel, London, if you wish to ask for it.

I further note what you say about cabling a protest to Sir Robert Borden, and it is very good of you to state that you are sorry for me. I undertook a certain duty for the Canadian Government at a considerable sacrifice, but only after careful thought.

P.T.O. →

