

# DR. CAMPBELL TAKES ACTION.

## *Search Warrants Issued for Recovery of Records.*

## *No "Pay Dirt" Found at ex- Steward Whitaker's House.*

## *More Drastic Measures Will Be Adopted, if Necessary, for Recovery.*

The missing records of the Southern California Hospital for the Insane, alleged to have been purloined by ex-Steward C. N. Whitaker and ex-Druggist Fred W. Howard, have not yet been recovered.

Dr. M. B. Campbell, medical superintendent of the hospital, however, expects to have them in his possession before noon today.

Yesterday was an anxious period for the ex-employees who have been making charges based on the missing books and papers, the fact of the Attorney-General's office taking a hand being interpreted to mean all kinds of litigation, and perhaps a Grand Jury indictment.

Assistant Attorney-General Stetson arrived yesterday morning, and immediately "got busy." Believing in "the multitude of counselors," Dr. Campbell also secured the services of Attorney Oscar Lawler. These men advised the adoption of the simplest matters of procedure, which was the swearing out of search warrants for the recovery of the missing property.

In the affidavits prepared, and attested by the District Attorney's office, the demand was made for—

Two requisitions signed by Dr. Dolan, and receipted by A. C. Clarke, Nos. 3879½ and 3880.

Non-contract estimates for March, April and June, Nos. 275, 238, 266 and 226; duplicate estimates for the entire month of June; the June recapitulation, No. 264.

All papers addressed to C. N. Whitaker as steward of the hospital; all letters and papers addressed to Dr. M. B. Campbell, or in any way connected with the business of the hospital.

The records of the hospital dispensary covering the years 1896 to 1901, inclusive.

On presentation of the affidavits in Justice Pierce's court search warrants were issued and placed in the hands of two deputy sheriffs for execution. Whitaker's residence at Monrovia was thoroughly ransacked late yesterday afternoon, resulting only in the recovery of a few unimportant letters. The documents sought, and upon which Whitaker bases his charges of general mismanagement and "grafting," were nowhere in evidence, evidently having been securely "staked out" in anticipation of just such a move on the part of Dr. Campbell.

Early this morning ex-Druggist Howard's residence will be searched, and should the officers fail there more drastic measures will be adopted to bring to light the missing documents.

Dr. Campbell said last night: "I am confident of being able to secure every paper and book enumerated in the affidavit sworn to. I am thoroughly in earnest in this effort, as the culprits will ascertain. In view of the investigation that I sincerely court I want the State records where they belong. In the hands of irresponsible ex-employees I could not have access to them. I want them where the board can examine them and judge for themselves whether or not the State has lost a cent."

"I am not of a vindictive nature, nor am I inclined to punish these offenders, but it is a question whether I am permitted to remain silent under the circumstances or refuse to take further action. I do not care to compound a felony by refusing to do my duty and bring the matter to the attention of the grand jury. However, I shall proceed only on lines marked out by my attorneys. If that means litigation I am prepared to push matters to the limit."