

Register, Oct. 31/11

THE GOVERNMENT GEOLOGIST.

From "Diogenes":—"The public are much interested in the appointments to be made this week. Perhaps recent criticisms in the press may cause the Government to be specially careful in the final selection. It will be a lasting discredit to our State, and a great injustice to South Australian trained geologists, if they are passed over. The public have great regard for the University, but cannot understand why it should be allowed to meddle in Government matters. True, the Ministry has asked for its help, but why should it have been solicited? Has the Ministry such little faith in its own power that it has to relegate its duties to outsiders? If the Premier has such trust in the professors, why did he not get one to report on the suitability of the Leigh Creek coal for briquette purposes? Is there not one on the staff capable of doing so? Why not have a board of unbiassed independent men appointed to make all appointments in the civil service? After the controversy in the press during the last few months the greatest caution should be observed. There should be no suspicion of bias. I hope others will take this matter up and see that fairplay is given to South Australians, be they Irish, Scotch, or German."