News and Comments.

At this moment it is of some comfort to the dental profession that its humblest civilian member, individually no less than in organized co-operation, can render skilled and invaluable service to the State.

As announced in the public press, the Governors of Guy's Hospital have offered the whole of the resources of the Dental Department of the hospital to the War Office for the succour of men offering themselves as recruits who have been rejected on the ground of defective teeth. The treatment will be undertaken chiefly by old Guy's dental men at present practising in the metropolitan area, who will work in relays. The department will be able to provide fifty dental chairs, available for patients for about six hours a day.

Other dental hospitals in London are taking similar action. In addition, one of the special hospitals in London is establishing a department for this purpose.

The Nottingham Qualified Dentists' Public Service have undertaken to treat recruits from August 11, and will commence its public service from August 17.

The Liverpool Dental Hospital Committee decided, at a special meeting on August 14, to treat free of charge the teeth of all recruits between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. daily. Men attending for treatment will be required to produce a note from the recruiting medical officer.

The Committee of the Manchester Dental Hospital met on August 12, and came to a similar decision. The staff will see men between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m., and, if necessary, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. also.

West Riding dentists met at Leeds and decided that a list of dentists in each town who are willing to treat the teeth of recruits and reservists without fee should be sent to the local medical officers.

Our Association, mindful of the assistance so gratefully accepted by the Government during the South African War, has already moved by addressing the following circular letter to Presidents and Hon. Secretaries of its Branches; enclosing copies of official letters sent on their behalf to the Admiralty and the War Office, as appended below:
LETTER, COVERING ENCLOSURES, TO PRESIDENTS AND HON. SECRETARIES.

"British Dental Association,

19, Hanover Square, London, W.,

August 6, 1914.

DEAR SIR,—I beg to forward you herewith copies of letters sent to the Admiralty and War Office in response to a petition from members of the Association addressed to the Executive Committee. They in a measure explain themselves, and we hope that you will take immediate action to bring the subject matter contained therein before the members of your Branch.

"Further, it is felt that all members can render material assistance to their colleagues who are absent from their practices, serving their country, by

"(1) Arranging to see their patients for them.

"(2) Helping those members who have been deprived of the services of their mechanics for the same reason.

"I venture to enclose a draft letter for your guidance in acquainting your members with these facts, and we suggest that you should also communicate with such members of the profession within your area, who are not members of the Association, as you may think desirable.

"Yours faithfully,

(Signed) "F. J. Pearce, Hon. Secretary."

(Enclosures.) (1) LETTER TO THE ADMIRALTY.

"British Dental Association,

19, Hanover Square, London, W.

DEAR SIR,—We venture to suggest that there is now, on account of the war, an urgent need for a large number of dental surgeons to supplement the civilian naval dental surgeons. We think that their services will be called for in connection with the following:

"(1) To serve in hospital ships.

"(2) To serve in base hospitals at home.

"(3) To provide treatment for accepted recruits and, if necessary, to render dentally fit recruits refused on account of teeth.

"We wish to emphasize the fact that effective treatment of injuries of the face and jaws is often impossible without the assistance of dental surgeons, who alone have the necessary experience for the construction and adaptation of splints, &c. Such help will be especially needed in the base hospitals abroad and at home.

"Furthermore, it may be pointed out that the everyday practice of a dentist renders him a skilful administrator of many anaesthetics.

"We beg to offer you, on behalf of this Association, the use of its organization in giving effect to the above suggestions, and we are
ready to confer with you at any moment or in any way to place our
services at your disposal.

"We are, Sir,
"Your obedient servants,
(Signed) "NORMAN G. BENNETT, Chairman, Representative Board,
"M. F. HOPSON, Hon. Treasurer,
"F. J. PEARCE, Hon. Secretary."

(2) LETTER TO THE WAR OFFICE.
"British Dental Association,
"19, Hanover Square, London, W.
"August 6, 1914.

"Dear Sir,—We venture to suggest that there is now, on account
of the war, an urgent need for dental surgeons to serve with the
Regular and Territorial Forces at home and abroad. The experi-
ences of the South African War, when large numbers of men were
invalided home solely on account of defective teeth, and dentists were
eventually sent out, make this a certainty.

"We submit that attention by fully qualified and hospital trained
dentists will be called for in connection with the following:—
"(1) To serve in base hospitals of expeditionary force.
"(2) To serve in military hospitals at home.
"(3) To provide treatment for accepted recruits and, if necessary,
to render dentally fit recruits refused on account of teeth.

"We emphasize the fact that effective treatment of injuries of the
face and jaws is often impossible without the assistance of dental
surgeons, who alone have the necessary experience for the construc-
tion and adaptation of splints, &c. Such help will be especially
needed in the base hospitals abroad and at home.

"Furthermore, it may be pointed out that the everyday practice
of a dentist renders him a skilful administrator of many anaesthetics.

"We beg to offer you, on behalf of this Association, the use of its
organization in giving effect to the above suggestions, and we are
ready to confer with you at any moment or in any way to place our
services at your disposal.

"We are, Sir,
"Your obedient servants,
(Signed) "NORMAN G. BENNETT, Chairman, Representative Board,
"M. F. HOPSON, Hon. Treasurer,
"F. J. PEARCE, Hon. Secretary."

(3) DRAFT LETTER FOR USE OF HON. SECRETARIES OF BRANCHES
IN CIRCULARIZING THEIR MEMBERS AND COLLEAGUES.

"The Executive of the British Dental Association have com-
mitted with the Admiralty and the War Office to the effect that
many members of the Association have intimated a desire to place
AND COMMENTS

your moment or in any way to place our
are, Sir,

Your obedient servants,

KINNERTON, Chairman, Representative Board. 
Hon. Treasurer. 
Hon. Secretary.

TO THE WAR OFFICE.

British Dental Association,
19, Hanover Square, London, W.

"August 6, 1914.

I suggest that there is now, on account
of dental surgeons to serve with the
forces at home and abroad. The experi-
ence, when large numbers of men were
sent to the front, that defective teeth, and dentists were
necessary.

By fully qualified and hospital trained
surgeons at home.

For accepted recruits and, if necessary,
useful on account of teeth.

The effective treatment of injuries of the
head without the assistance of dental
specialists like the surgeons.

&c. Such help will be specially
valuable in all branches of the war
service.

We are, Sir,

Your obedient servants,

KINNERTON, Chairman, Representative Board. 
Hon. Treasurer. 
Hon. Secretary.

OF HON. SECRETARIES OF BRANCHES 
MEMBERS AND COLLEAGUES.

British Dental Association have com-
tended the War Office to the effect that
they have intimated a desire to place

their services at the disposal of their country in connection with the
following:—

"(1) To serve in base hospitals of expeditionary force.

"(2) To serve in hospital ships and base hospitals at home and
abroad.

"(3) To provide treatment for accepted recruits and, if necessary,
to render dentally fit recruits refused on account of teeth.

"In these letters, which have to-day been sent to the public press,
the Executive refer to the fact that not only will dental treatment be
necessary, but that effective treatment of injuries of the face and jaws
is often impossible without the assistance of dental surgeons; and,
moreover, that dentists are skillful administrators of many anesthetics.

"If you should desire to take any share in this movement, and
will communicate with the Hon. Secretary of the Association, he will
be glad to inform you of such opportunities as the Admiralty or War
Office may indicate.

"It may be pointed out that, for those who are unable to leave
home or take part in hospital work, valuable help may be afforded to
their colleagues who are absent from their practices, serving their
country, by:—

"(1) Arranging to see their patients for them.

"(2) Helping those members who have been deprived of the
services of their mechanics for the same reason."


It is very gratifying to learn as we go to press, that in response to
the above appeal, and also spontaneously, the Hon. Secretary has
already received so many letters from dentists offering
their services in various capacities, that it is quite
impossible for him to reply to them individually. At
present, the Naval and Military Authorities have not advised us how
our services can best be employed, but as soon as there is any definite
scheme outlined, members and others, who have offered services, shall
be notified. In the meanwhile, where there are local hospitals or
other institutions for public dental service, it is hoped that members
will place their services at the disposal of any institutions that are
treating recruits or men rejected on account of defective teeth, or
may be contemplating such arrangements.


MEMBERS and readers in London wishing to get into personal touch
with the Royal Army Medical Corps, may, we understand, apply
to either 3, Henry Street, Gray's Inn Road; Brook

The R.A.M.C.
Hill Road, Woolwich; or 159, Greenwich Road,
S.E., if more convenient than at headquarters,
Whitehall.