

not been difficult to show that stomach of the infant by lavage the fever. The introduction of rinsing of the stomach, if done to remove an element of danger. Local anæsthesia during the first danger from loss of blood is has not suggested the slightest young infants do not bear the evidence to the contrary, we have

æmorrhage of guinea-pigs and birth than upon succeeding days. states that a baby rabbit can be without an anæsthetic and with hours after birth operations cause the fact that at the time of birth of medullation, and are, therefore,

forcibly dilated and developed by the child is brought into normal d.

to make a rule to operate in the ty rate than those who operate Only the strongest survive the he late operations are, therefore, of those which are not operated on before the third year it would be conjectured that the percentage of operation.—W. H. C.

#### Peroxide and Sodium Solution.

en peroxide in alkaline solution ions. To this rule solutions of t an exception, since they are This preservative action occurs, certain limits. The addition of le solution [N/20] is sufficient to tutions of perborates, which must le and borates in equilibrium; the sition, unless the alkalinity exceeds ive effect is due to the formation ic acid, which are only slightly eroxide and pyrophosphates.—R. eitschr. f. angew. Chem., 1914, 291,

## British Dental Journal.

SEPTEMBER 1, 1914.

### News and Comments.

IN these columns of August 15 (pp. 822-825), we published the drafts of letters forwarded to the Naval and Military Authorities, and to our Branch Presidents and Hon. Secretaries by the Executive of the Association; together with a brief acknowledgment by our Hon. Secretary of the response already received from dentists offering patriotic services in various capacities.

Since then replies from dental practitioners thus approached have continued to arrive in a steady stream amounting to many hundreds. To all thus responding the following letter has been sent, which we put on record:—

19, HANOVER SQUARE,  
LONDON, W.

August 19, 1914.

DEAR SIR,—I have been in personal communication with the Director-General of the Army Medical Service, and I am authorized to thank you on his behalf for the offer of your services and to inform you that a scheme is being arranged for the treatment of recruits, who are otherwise suitable but who would be rejected on account of defective teeth.

The Director-General is sending out notices to all Recruiting or Medical Officers, suggesting that suitable men, rejected on account of their teeth, should be given a form of application for treatment, on the understanding that they re-submit themselves for medical examination after treatment. Fillings and extractions only should be carried out and no dentures fitted.

The form will be as follows:—

#### BRITISH DENTAL ASSOCIATION.

FORM TO BE GIVEN TO A RECRUIT REQUIRING DENTAL TREATMENT.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Sent from \_\_\_\_\_ Recruiting Station.

Rejected on account of the state of his teeth, and will probably be rendered fit for enlistment after dental treatment.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Recruiting or Medical Officer.

Place \_\_\_\_\_

This form, signed by the Recruiting or Medical Officer, will be presented by rejected recruits, and I would suggest that men presenting these forms should have preference over other recruits who may be seeking treatment. After treatment, recruits should be instructed to return to the Medical Officer for re-examination. The Army Order, as to number of teeth necessary, merely specifies that the candidate shall have sufficient teeth for efficient mastication.

The work undertaken for recruits rejected on account of their teeth is gratuitous and I beg to thank you, on behalf of the British Dental Association, for your very kind co-operation with us in our endeavour to ensure that Lord Kitchener's "Second Army" shall not lack recruits, otherwise suitable, but who would have to be rejected if their teeth were not treated.

Accepted recruits will probably come under a different scheme, as it is hoped that it will be possible to make arrangements to treat them either at the Depots, to which they will at first be attached, or at the Training Centres, to which they will later be drafted.

The Army Medical Department do not at present see their way to make definite arrangements for the appointment of dentists to Base Hospitals, &c., but this matter will be considered later both by the War Office and by the British Red Cross Society, and those who have offered their services for this work will be communicated with when such arrangements are made.

I am, yours sincerely,

(Signed) FRANK J. PEARCE,  
*Hon. Secretary.*

THIS has since been followed up by a letter to Hon. Secretaries of Branches:—

*August 20, 1914.*

DEAR SIR,—I enclose a list of dental surgeons, in your Branch area, who have offered their services to assist colleagues who are absent from their practices serving their country, by—

- (1) Arranging to see their patients for them;
- (2) Helping colleagues who have been deprived of the services of their mechanics for the same reason.

It appears to me that this matter can be best arranged by the Hon. Secretaries of Branches and perhaps by them through the Section Secretaries.

I would suggest that someone should communicate with any man known to be absent, or, if that is impossible, with his relatives, and ask what assistance can be rendered him. I think it should be made quite clear that it is our endeavour to assist him so that he shall not suffer financially more than is necessary, and that, except for materials or other necessary expenses, the fees—or, at any rate, a large proportion of them—would be payable to him. I also think when arrangements are made it should be clearly stated to the man who undertakes to render this assistance, that he is expected to do so on these terms.

I am, yours sincerely,

(Signed) FRANK J. PEARCE,  
*Hon. Secretary.*

MENTS

Medical Officer, will be presented that men presenting these forms who may be seeking treatment. I to return to the Medical Officer number of teeth necessary, merely dent teeth for efficient mastication. ed on account of their teeth is of the British Dental Association, r endeavour to ensure that Lord recruits, otherwise suitable, but ere not treated.

nder a different scheme, as it is ements to treat them either at the ed, or at the Training Centres, to

at present see their way to make f dentists to Base Hospitals, &c., th by the War Office and by the ave offered their services for this arrangements are made.

s sincerely,

ed) FRANK J. PEARCE,  
*Hon. Secretary.*

by a letter to Hon. Secretaries

*August 20, 1914.*

urgeons, in your Branch area, who agues who are absent from their

em;  
deprived of the services of their

e best arranged by the Hon. Secre- rough the Section Secretaries. communicate with any man known his relatives, and ask what assist- ld be made quite clear that it is our not suffer financially more than is r other necessary expenses, the fees n—would be payable to him. I also ld be clearly stated to the man who he is expected to do so on these

am, yours sincerely,

ed) FRANK J. PEARCE,  
*Hon. Secretary.*

It is suggested that it would be of great assistance if Hon. Secretaries of Branches might hear from members absent on active service in any capacity as to what way help can be most efficiently rendered to them and their comrades in arms.

FURTHER publicity to the activities of the Executive of the Association has been afforded by the wide distribution of the following Notice which has appeared in many influential organs of the medical and lay press:—

The Director-General of the Army Medical Service has gratefully accepted the offer of the British Dental Association to assist in providing efficient dental service for the Army, and has asked the Association to arrange for the treatment of recruits otherwise suitable who may be rejected on account of defective teeth.

Official notification has been given to all recruiting and medical officers that suitable men, who are rejected on account of the state of their teeth, and who would probably be rendered fit for enlistment after dental treatment, should be given a form of application for dental treatment on the understanding that they re-submit themselves for medical examination afterwards.

The Association has received hundreds of offers of assistance from its members, and gratuitous treatment is now being carried out throughout the country by the Association in co-operation with the Army medical authorities.

In large centres, recruits are being treated at dental hospitals and public dental services, and in other parts of the country by many members of the dental profession at their own practices.

It is hoped later to arrange for accepted recruits of whom no doubt a large number require dental treatment, but the main object of the Association at present is to ensure that recruits otherwise suitable shall not be rejected simply on account of defective teeth.

In the House of Commons, on August 26, in reply to Mr. Norton Griffiths, Mr. Tennant said that instructions had been issued to all Army medical examiners that no man who was organically sound was to be refused enlistment on account of bad teeth, unless that defect was believed to be the cause of his malnutrition. Many highly qualified dental surgeons were patriotically giving their services for the free treatment of recruits.

The attention of readers concerned (and who is not?) with best safeguarding economic conditions at home during the present time of stress and strain, may be directed to a special article on another page attempting to show how the nation's wealth and resources may be directed in provided channels for alleviating as much as possible the inevitable distress from unemployment, and the dislocation of trade and certain industries which a great war entails.

For those who perforce cannot either "go" or "do," it is sought to show that there are provided means to be initiated other than merely to "give" or "pay."

*Pay, indeed, we all must, to the uttermost and by our hearts'*

blood; but direction of our efforts and our money may be wise or otherwise.

THE very excellent reports of the general sessions of the Sixth International Dental Congress we are enabled to publish to-day, but accentuate our regret that no Hon. Secretaries of the various Sections have provided us with any account of the proceedings in their respective departments.

**Echoes of the Congress.**

We are therefore unable at present to even outline a list of those promised papers which were actually read and discussed; and we can but record the sympathy universally felt with the zealous self-sacrificing officials whose long labours—for the present at least—materializes only in hopes and promises unfulfilled.

A pathetic instance of many such disappointments is mentioned by a writer in the *Guy's Hospital Gazette*, who says: "One reader of a report, who came from Philadelphia, and had brought two patients with him for the illustration of his report, found no one in the theatre to whom to read the report or show the patients. He suggested to the assembled officers that they should journey to the Museum, where he would explain the exhibit illustrating the report. On his arrival there he found the exhibit being hurriedly packed."

Not all of the Sections, however, fared quite so badly; and we are enabled to give brief mention of proceedings at the Sections of Dental Anatomy, Histology and Physiology, presided over by Professor A. S. Underwood; and that of Oral Hygiene, Public Instruction and Dental Services (President, Mr. Norman G. Bennett), culled from a "Special Correspondent's" communication to the *British Journal of Dental Science* and the pages of the *Morning Post*.

The two addresses before the General Session of the Congress by Dr. Kirk on "Education," and by Dr. Guy on "Narcosis" respectively, we hope to publish in the next and subsequent issues of the Journal.

THE letter to the *Lancet* of July 25, by Dr. Goodhart, criticizing certain prevalent extraction of teeth "treatments," which we republished last month (the Journal, August 1, p. 800), has been followed up by an interesting correspondence. On another page we give the subsequent letters, or extracts from them, which experienced and thoughtful dental and general surgeons have contributed, pro and con.

**Extraction and Oral Sepsis.**

How very important are the issues upon which so much disagreement unfortunately prevails (especially as bearing upon dental education) has been fully appreciated by teachers and examiners of future practitioners; and is emphatically voiced by the editor of our