

The total enlistments and wastage by months were as follows: January, enlistments 9,194 wastage 4,396; February, enlistments 6,909, wastage 21,955; March, enlistments 6,640, wastage 6,161; April, enlistments 5,330, wastage 16,894; May, enlistments 6,407, wastage 13,347; June, enlistments 6,348, wastage 7,913; July, enlistments 3,882, wastage 7,906; August, enlistments 3,117, wastage 13,232. The number of enlistments in England for the C.E.F. from February 1st, 1915, to June 30th, 1917, a total of 1,452 is added by the Militia Department to the totals given above, making the grand total of 49,179.

SHORTAGE OF MEDICAL STUDENTS.

MEMORANDUM BY THE CENTRAL MEDICAL WAR COMMITTEE.

In the supplement last week was printed a memorandum on the shortage of medical students, submitted to the Government and the heads of the departments concerned by the Committee of Reference of the Royal College of Physicians, London, and the Royal College of Surgeons, passed by the Central Medical War Committee on September 12th. In supporting the memorandum of the Committee of Reference, in a letter dated September 18th to the Secretary of State for War, the Central Medical War Committee states that it desires to make certain additional remarks. These are contained in a memorandum forwarded also the Prime Minister, the Minister of National Service, the Adjutant-General, the Director-General Army Medical Service, the Medical Director-General R.N., and the President of the Board of Education. This memorandum, which we print below, embodies the two resolutions published last week:

SHORTAGE OF MEDICAL STUDENTS.

1. The annual average wastage of doctors in normal pre-war times owing to death, retirement from practice, or permanent incapacity is about 900.
2. The average number of medical men added to the *Medical Register* annually is about 1,100 in pre-war times.
3. There is now a large abnormal wastage in qualified medical men arising directly out of the war.
4. The supply of medical men to meet the needs of the civil population has now been reduced to the lowest number consistent with safety, and there is practically no reserve to make good the normal annual wastage from deaths or incapacity.
5. All new additions to the ranks of the medical profession by the qualification of students are at once requisitioned by His Majesty's forces, and are not available, therefore, to make good the normal average wastage of doctors required for the civil population.