

One Man Out of It.

To the Editor of DOMINION DENTAL JOURNAL :

SIR,—I am utterly opposed to the suggestion of a correspondent to stop the manufacture of dentists in Canada. In the first place, it cannot be done; in the next, if it could be done, and it was attempted, everybody would believe it was done for purely selfish reasons, and the Legislature would very likely be asked to make dental practice as free as peddling.

The dentists are themselves to blame. Why do we take every Tom, Dick and Harry who comes along and wants to be a student? I know some dentists who would take them by the dozen if they could get them. I favor opening our arms, and offering all sorts of inducements to all sorts of people to become "tooth-tinkers," and the disease of which many complain will be cured by the treatment. Glut every city, town and village with dentists. Induce every jeweller and tinker to open mechanical laboratories. Persuade the physicians to become the dentists again, as they once were the barbers. Open public dental hospitals, and let the people have their teeth out by the bushel a day with the same liberty they enjoy to have their whiskers cut.

I say the fault for this overcrowding, and for the depreciation of fees and the vulgar quackery in which so many young men are indulging in Ontario and Quebec, is entirely due to the dentists themselves; and what disgusts me is that many of the very men who say this and complain of it, have a perfect breeding-place for students in their own offices. Dentistry may go to the d— in Ontario and Quebec, for all I care. I'm off to Manitoba as a farmer.

Yours,

NO MORE L.D.S.

Treating Flabby Gums.

To the Editor of DOMINION DENTAL JOURNAL :

SIR,—In reply to Question 8 in "The Question Drawer" of the JOURNAL, "W. G. B." recommends for flabby gums: "If the mucous membrane hangs in a soft and long fold, it may be sprayed with chloride ethyle and clipped neatly with surgical scissors, and treated like any other wound."

This sounds somewhat formidable to the ordinary operator, so I wish to give the result of my experience in the treatment of such cases by the method recommended—for what use are recommendations unless we try them? And, having tried, why not give the profession the benefit of our experience, be it good or bad?