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INSTRUMENT NOMENCLATURE WITH REFERENCE TO INSTRUMENTATION.*

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INTRODUCTION.

[We have much pleasure in complying with the request of the National School of Dental Technics, for the publication of the following paper by Dr. Black.—ED.]

The want of some recognized scheme of Nomenclature and Classification of Dental Operating Instruments that will individualize the instruments of the several orders and classes is a great bar to progress in teaching instrumentation. This is apparently severely felt by all who labor for exactness in their operations, or endeavor to express the manner of their performance and to speak of the instruments used. The teacher has no means of telling his pupils just what particular instrument he would use in performing a specific act in excavating a given cavity or preparing a margin. The only means of individualizing excavators and pluggers, the instruments which present the most important variations, has been the manufacturer's number. These numbers have not been used by the profession, except occasionally for ordering instruments from catalogues. An extended study of these numbers develops the following facts: When an instrument is designed that is thought to be a good pattern the manufacturer assigns it a number.

*This paper as printed for reading before the National School of Dental Technics was copyrighted, because it was seen that a revision would be necessary, and it was not desirable that it should be generally published before such revision.