

corals were conducted to determine their growth-rate, and the share they take in the composition of reef limestones. A statistical ecologic study of the reefs was made, and the reactions of corals to heat and salinity determined.

COMMITTEES UNDER THE BRITISH BOARDS OF TRADE AND AGRICULTURE

THE president of the Board of Trade has appointed a committee to consider and report what steps should be taken, whether by legislation or otherwise, to ensure that there shall be an adequate and economical supply of electric power for all classes of consumers in the United Kingdom, particularly industries which depend upon a cheap supply of power for their development. The members of the committee are: Mr. F. Huth-Jackson (chairman), Mr. H. Booth, Mr. J. Devonshire, Mr. J. Falconer, Mr. G. H. Hume, Mr. J. Kemp, Mr. H. H. Law, Mr. C. H. Merz, Sir Charles Parsons, Sir John Snell, Alderman C. F. Spencer and Mr. A. J. Walter.

The president of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries has appointed a committee to consider practical means for increasing the supplies of sea-fish for the home markets and for encouraging the consumption of such fish, whether cured or fresh, in substitution for other foods. The committee has received a grant from the development fund, with authority to expend the grant, subject to limitations and conditions recommended by the development commissioners and approved by the treasury, at their discretion for the increase of the fishing power of vessels other than steam fishing vessels. In general their expenditure will be confined to assisting fishermen who are owners of their own boats to develop their fishing power and to secure greater quantities of fish. The committee consists of: Mr. Cecil Harmsworth (chairman); Mr. H. S. M. Blundell, of the Admiralty War Staff (Trade Division); Mr. H. G. Maurice, of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries; Mr. E. H. Collingwood, of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries; Mr. Stephen Reynolds, representing the Development Commissioners; Mr. A. Towle, representing the Food Controller.

The president of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries has appointed a committee to consider whether any considerable addition to the home food supplies of fish could be provided from the rivers, lakes and ponds of England and Wales. The committee is requested to have special regard to considerations affecting the practicability of any scheme for bringing fresh-water fish supplies into consumption, such as transport to market, the food value of the different kinds of fish, the probability of its proving acceptable to the consumer, the necessity for interference with private rights, and the risk of damage to more valuable fisheries. Further, the committee will consider and report upon measures which might be taken for securing a greater output of eels from the waters of the United Kingdom for home consumption. The members of the committee are: Lord Desborough (chairman), Mr. R. B. Marston, Mr. A. R. Peart, Mr. F. G. Richmond, Mr. H. T. Sheringham, Mr. A. Tate Regan, Sir John Wrench Towse. The Hon. A. S. Northcote will act as secretary to the committee.

BASE HOSPITALS ABROAD

SIX of the base hospitals organized by the American National Red Cross for service with the medical department of the United States Army have been ordered abroad for active duty. The hospitals are: Base hospital No. 2, the Presbyterian Hospital, New York, Dr. George E. Brewer, director; base hospital No. 4, the Lakeside Hospital, Cleveland, Dr. George W. Crile, director; base hospital No. 5, Harvard University, the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, Dr. Harvey Cushing, director; base hospital No. 10, the Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia, Dr. Richard H. Harte, director; base hospital No. 12, Northwestern University Medical School, Dr. Frederick A. Beasley, director; base hospital No. 21, Washington University Medical School, St. Louis, Dr. Frederick T. Murphy, director. Three of the units are expected to embark at once and the others to follow soon.

The Harvard University unit includes the following: