

care, there will be equipment for surgical reconstruction work and "curative workshops" in which men will acquire ability to use injured members while doing work interesting and useful in itself. This method has supplanted the old and tiresome one of prescribing a set of motions for a man to go through with no other purpose than to reacquire use of his injured part.

In addition to the American orthopedic surgeons now working abroad under Col. Jones, of England, others will soon go overseas. Experienced surgeons, and a large number of younger surgeons who will work under competent directors, will go abroad for this work, all to be under the direction of Major Goldthwait. These orthopedic surgeons will work in England among the British force and when needed will be transferred to France to work among American soldiers.

It is not the intention that men able to go back to the firing line shall be returned to this country unless their convalescence will extend over a period of a considerable number of months. Soldiers unable to return to duty will be sent to the reconstruction hospitals in the United States.

Instructors and examiners for all the camps are also being furnished by the department of military orthopedic surgery. A number of older and more experienced surgeons will act as instructors and supervisors for each of the groups into which the camps will be divided; a number of orthopedic surgeons will be detailed as attending surgeons at each camp to act as examiners and as consultants to the camp's other surgeons.

#### FOREST BATTALIONS FOR SERVICE IN FRANCE

THE formation of a second "Forest" regiment comprising ten battalions and composed of lumbermen and woodworkers, who will go to France and get out of the forests materials for the use of the American, French and British armies, has been authorized by the War Department.

Two battalions are to be raised at once with the active aid of the Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture. It is expected that the remaining eight battalions will be

called for in a short time. Nine "service" battalions, made up of laborers who will be used in connection with the Forest regiment, have also been authorized and two battalions have been ordered raised at once.

In order to provide for future contingencies it has been decided to commission at the present time enough officers for other battalions yet to be raised. Those men not needed now will be placed on the reserve, and will be called as the other units are formed. According to the present plan, fifty per cent. of the officers will be sawmill and logging operators, twenty-five per cent. will be technical foresters, and twenty-five per cent. will be men with military tenants will be selected in the immediate future. The minimum age limit for commissioned officers has been set at thirty-one.

A considerable number of captains and lieutenants to be selected in the immediate future. The minimum age limit for commissioned officers has been set at thirty-one.

A first regiment of woodsmen numbering about 1,200 men and designated as the Tenth Engineers (Forest) has already been recruited and assembled and is now being trained at American University, D. C. This regiment was raised at the request of the British government to undertake the production in France of crossties, bridge, trench and construction timbers, mine props, lumber, and other forms of wood required in connection with its military operations. The landing of the American expeditionary forces has made necessary similar provision for their needs, while the French military authorities have indicated that some of the work incidental to their operations might be taken over by woodsmen from this country. Decision to raise the new and much larger force has followed a study of the field of possible usefulness to the Allied cause, made by American foresters attached to General Pershing's staff.

Each of the ten battalions of the second regiment will comprise three companies of 250 men each, and will be under the command of its own major. The regiment will be made up of volunteers. Applicants must be white and between the ages of eighteen and forty.

Skilled lumberjacks, portable mill operators, tie cutters, logging teamsters, camp cooks, millwrights and charcoal burners are among the classes of men desired. For the "service" battalions both negro and white laborers will be enlisted.

#### OCCUPATIONAL CENSUS OF THE ARMY

THE War Department has authorized the following statement:

There is now being made under the direction of the Adjutant General a comprehensive occupational and educational census of the men of the National Army.

The object is to carry the selective service law to its logical conclusion and to increase the efficiency of the army by putting the right man in the right place.

With this in view, a personnel organization has been established in each of the 16 cantonments. The previous occupation, education and preference for service of every man are recorded on individual cards, which are then filed and analyzed at the divisional personnel office in each cantonment. An analysis as to the entire 687,000 men of the first increment can readily be made from these records.

In this work the War Department is having the assistance of a body of civilian experts organized under the name "Committee on classification of personnel in the Army" and including a number of professional employment managers loaned to the government by large industrial and business concerns. The data collected will be used within the divisional organizations to assist division commanders in making the best possible assignment of their men. It will also be of importance in locating men fitted for special branches of the service, such as Aviation, the Ordnance Corps, etc., for which it may be necessary to assign men from the cantonments.

It must not be assumed that men can continue their old occupations in the army. The function of an army is to fight and most of the men irrespective of previous occupations, will be in the infantry and artillery. Nevertheless, the specialization of modern war requires large numbers of skilled men adapted for technical units and special branches of the service. The

locating and placing of such men to the best advantage is of vital importance.

#### OPPORTUNITY FOR PHYSIOLOGISTS AND BIOCHEMISTS

THE Surgeon General of the army is organizing a Food Division of his office, the object of which is to safeguard the nutritional interests of the army by means of competent inspection of food from the standpoint of nutritive value, the supervision of mess conditions, including the economical utilization of food, and a study of the suitability of the army ration for troops in the camp and in the field. Well-trained physiologists and biochemists are needed to direct this work. These men are being commissioned, according to age and experience, as first lieutenants and captains in the Sanitary Corps, Medical Department; or, if they have medical degrees, in the Medical Reserve Corps.

It is probable there will be as many commissioned officers as there are camps and cantonments. Nutritional surveys will be conducted at the camps by surveying parties composed of these commissioned officers, and of drafted men, who have had scientific training, acting as assistants and clerks. It is estimated that such a survey can be completed in from ten days to two weeks for each camp.

It is hoped by means of these surveying parties also to instruct the company mess sergeants and company cooks in improved methods of selecting and preparing the foods. A school for the finished training of the scientists employed in this work is now being organized. The organization of the army, the army methods of handling and cooking foods, the latest methods of food examination and analysis, the conduct of the food survey and kindred topics will be covered by competent instructors from various departments of the army and other departments of the national government.

The facilities of the Bureau of Chemistry, including its analytical laboratories scattered over the country, have been placed at the disposal of the Food Division for this work. Analyses of the garbage will be made and of all foods whose composition is not already known, and the actual distribution of nutrients and of total calories consumed by the men will be com-