

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-

puted. Any alteration of the army ration in the future will be based only upon the facts as thus gathered. There is every promise that this service will prove to be of strategic importance in the control of the health and welfare of the troops from the place of their mobilization to the battle front.

#### PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF RECRUITS

APPOINTMENTS for psychological examiners in the National Army Cantonments, Camp Lee, Petersburg, Va.; Camp Dix, Wrightstown, N. J.; Camp Devens, Ayer, Mass.; Camp Taylor, Louisville, Ky., have been made as follows:

Major, Robert M. Yerkes, Surgeon General's Office, in charge of psychological work. Lieutenant Arthur S. Otis in charge of statistical work in the Surgeon General's Office, Section of Psychology.

Lieutenants Clarence S. Yoakum, Marion R. Trabue, Jos. W. Hayes, and Wm. S. Foster to serve as chief psychological examiners.

Lieutenants Geo. O. Ferguson, Jr., Walter S. Hunter, Edw. S. Jones, Karl T. Waugh, Heber B. Cummings, Edgar A. Doll, John T. Metcalf, Herschel T. Manuel, Carl C. Brigham, John E. Anderson, Horace B. English and Harold A. Richmond to serve as psychological examiners.

In addition to the above commissioned examiners, the following have been given civil appointment for psychological examining: Doctors Leo J. Brueckner, Donald G. Paterson, A. S. Edwards, Rudolph Pintner, Benj. F. Pittenger, Ben. D. Wood, John W. Bridges, J. Crosby Chapman, John K. Norton, Edward C. Rowe, J. David Houser, C. P. Stone, Thos. H. Haines, Norbert J. Melville, H. P. Shumway, Chas. H. Toll, Thos. M. Stokes, C. C. Stech, John J. B. Morgan, Raymond H. Wheeler, Harold C. Bingham, Carl R. Brown, Chester E. Kellogg, Ralph S. Roberts, and D. L. Hoppinginer.

#### SECTION OF ZOOLOGY OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

THE annual meeting of Section F (Zoology) of the American Association for the Advancement of Science will be held at Pittsburgh,

Pa., during Convocation Week on Saturday, Monday and Tuesday, December 29, 31 and January 1, under the presidency of Professor Herbert Osborn, of the Ohio State University. The opening sessions on Saturday will be devoted to the reading of technical papers, the titles of which together with brief abstracts of not over three hundred words must be in the hands of the secretary not later than December 10 in order to appear on the printed program. A joint smoker with the American Society of Naturalists is planned for Saturday evening.

The address of the retiring vice-president will be read by Professor George Howard Parker, of Harvard University, at the morning session on Monday, December 31. The "General Interest Session" will be held on Monday afternoon and will consist of a symposium on "The Contribution of Zoology to Human Welfare." Papers on this important subject will be read by Doctor Hugh M. Smith, U. S. Commissioner of Fisheries; Dr. L. O. Howard, chief entomologist of the U. S. Department of Agriculture; Dr. Charles Wardell Stiles, U. S. Public Health Service; and Professor Maurice A. Bigelow, director of the School of Practical Arts of Columbia University. The sessions of Tuesday, January 1, will be held in conjunction with the American Society of Naturalists and will close with the Naturalists' dinner on Tuesday evening.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Surgeon General of the army, Major General William C. Gorgas, has established a board to collect material for the medical and surgical history of American participation in the European War. This board is composed of Colonel C. C. McCulloch, librarian of the Army Medical Library; Major F. H. Garrison, assistant librarian in direct charge of work on the history, and Captain John S. Fulton, secretary of the Maryland State Board of Health, who will have charge of the statistical work.

DR. VERANUS A. MOORE, dean of the veterinary college of Cornell University, has been in Washington, serving as an adviser of Surgeon General Gorgas in the organization of the