

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

FREE PUBLIC MEDICAL LECTURES

THE faculty of medicine of Harvard University offers a course of free public lectures on medical subjects to be given at the medical school, Longwood Avenue, Boston, on Sunday afternoons at four o'clock, beginning January 6 and ending April 21, 1918.

January 6. Social hygiene and the war, Dr. Wm. F. Snow, major, Medical Reserve Corps, U. S. A.

January 13. Surgical shock, Dr. W. T. Porter.

January 20. Teeth and their relation to human ailments; a plea for conservation, Dr. G. H. Wright.

January 27. Home nursing, with demonstrations, Elizabeth Sullivan.

February 3. Child welfare during the war, Dr. Richard M. Smith.

February 10. Child welfare, Miss Mary Beard.

February 17. Shoes and structure of the foot, Dr. E. H. Bradford.

February 24. Social infection and the community, Bishop Lawrence.

March 3. The deformed mouth of a child; its effect on the child's future, Dr. L. W. Baker.

March 10. Food: how to save it, Dr. L. J. Henderson.

March 17. What to eat during the war, Dr. F. W. White.

March 24. Some aspects of fatigue, Dr. Percy G. Stiles.

March 31. Camp sanitation and control, and hospital administration at Camp Devens, Dr. Glenn I. Jones, major, Medical Corps, U. S. A.

April 7. Accident and injury, first aid (with simple demonstrations), Dr. J. Bapst Blake.

April 14. Immunity to contagious disease, Dr. E. H. Place.

April 21. Hay fever and asthma, Dr. I. Chandler Walker.

April 28. Food administration during the war, Dr. Julius Levy (under the National Food Committee).

THE POPULAR MEDICAL LECTURES TO BE GIVEN AT
THE STANFORD UNIVERSITY MEDICAL SCHOOL
DURING JANUARY, FEBRUARY AND
MARCH, 1918

The program is as follows:

January 4. The control of vice diseases among troops through civil and military cooperation, Colonel L. U. Maus, U. S. Army.

January 18. Surgery of the present war, Dr. Leo Eloesser.

February 1. Industrial fatigue, Professor E. G. Martin.

February 15. Food poisoning from canned goods, Dr. E. C. Dickson.

March 1. Recent experiences of a medical man in the war zone, Dr. William P. Lucas, professor of pediatrics, University of California.

March 15. Circulation of the blood, Dr. A. A. D'Ancona. Illustrated with moving pictures.

WARTIME WORK OF THE FOREST SERVICE

How the work of the Forest Service was realigned to meet war conditions is described in the Annual Report of the Forester, which in the absence of the head of the service is made by Acting Forester A. F. Potter. The report also states that practically every form of use of the forests was greater than ever before, that the receipts again touched a new high level with a total of \$3,457,028.41, and that the increase in receipts over the previous year was \$633,487.70.

"When the grazing charge has been advanced to cover the full value of the grazing privilege," says the report, "the income from the national forests will be close to the cost of operation. The present annual cost is about \$4,000,000." An increase equal to that of the last fiscal year "would close the gap."

The Forester, Henry S. Graves, is now serving with the American Expeditionary Forces in France, with a commission as lieutenant colonel, in connection with the forest work for the supply of the needs of our overseas troops and those of the Allies. A number of other members of the Forest Service received commissions in the Tenth Engineers (Forest) while many more entered the ranks.

Wood and other forest products have almost innumerable uses in modern warfare. Never before has the demand for exact knowledge been so urgent. "In the work relating to forest utilization and forest products, the resources of the service have been employed to the limit of their capacity since the war began in rendering assistance to the War and Navy Departments, the Emergency Fleet Corporation, various committees of the Coun-

cil of National Defense, and manufacturers of war orders. The peace-time program has been largely discontinued. The force and the work have been centered in Washington and Madison. Every effort has been made to bring available knowledge to the attention of the organizations which have need for it and to assist in anticipating their problems."

Much of the work has concerned aircraft material. It has included also problems connected with the construction of wooden ships and of vehicles. Assistance has been given to hardwood distillation plants in order to increase the production of acetone and other products needed for munition making. A commercial demonstration has shown that costs of producing ethyl alcohol from wood waste can be materially reduced. Methods have been developed by which walnut and birch can be kiln-dried in a much reduced time with comparatively little loss. In general, the report says, "much assistance has been given on a great variety of war problems relating to forest resources and the manufacture, purchase, and most efficient use of wood and other forest products."

In spite of the many new demands upon the Service and the entrance upon military duties of a considerable number of its men, the administrative and protective work on the national forests was continued without disorganization. "Upon request of the War Department the preliminaries of recruiting and officering the Tenth Engineers (Forest) were handled. Increase of crop production in and near the forests was stimulated and the forage resource of the forests was made available for emergency use up to the limit of safety. In the latter part of the summer a fire season of extreme danger, made worse in some localities by an unusual prevalence of incendiarism, was passed through with relatively small loss of property and with no reported loss of life."

WAR ACTIVITIES OF THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

THE activities of the Geological Survey, Department of the Interior, during the fiscal year 1916-17 have been concentrated on investigations connected with military and industrial

preparedness, as shown by the Annual Report of the director of the survey, just made public. These activities have included the preparation of special reports for the War and Navy Departments and the Council of National Defense, the making of military surveys, the printing of military maps and hydrographic charts, and the contribution of engineer officers to the Reserve Corps.

The survey's investigations of minerals that have assumed special interest because of the war have been both expanded and made more intensive. Special reports giving results already at hand, the product of years of field and office investigation, have been published for the information of the general public or prepared for the immediate use of some official commission, committee or bureau. Geologic field work has been concentrated on deposits of minerals that are essential to the successful prosecution of the war, especially those of which the domestic supply falls short of present demands. Every available oil geologist is at work in petroleum regions where geologic exploration may lead to increased production. Other geologists are engaged in a search for commercial deposits of the "war minerals"—manganese, pyrite, platinum, chromite, tungsten, antimony, potash and nitrate.

The war not only diverted practically all the activities of the topographic branch of the survey to work designed to meet the urgent needs of the war department for military surveys, but led to the commissioning of the majority of the topographers as reserve officers in the Corps of Engineers, United States Army.

A large contribution to the military service is made by the map-printing establishment of the survey. This plant has been available for both confidential and urgent work, and during the year has printed 96 editions of maps for the war department and 906 editions of charts for the navy department. Other lithographic work, some of it very complicated, was in progress at the end of the year.

During the year the survey published 203 scientific and economic reports, and at the end of the year the survey members holding ap-