

astic and ready for service along these lines, and truly feel that their services would be of aid in winning the war.

For the medical advisory boards, Major McLean stated that all the governors' aides have been appointed, and have been received with hearty accord. It has been the universal report that the services of these governors' aides have been invaluable, and in many instances the governors have requested permission to attach the aides to their offices for the period of the war.

Dr. Victor C. Vaughan submitted the final report of the meeting, emphasizing the necessity of close cooperation between civilian authorities and military authorities in the regulation of health matters concerning both these branches. In the state of Michigan, where very close cooperation exists, infectious diseases occurring in the civilian population necessitates immediate report to the military authorities in the nearby cantonment by telephone or telegraph. This enables the military authorities to institute efficient quarantine against any particular quarter in the state where communicable disease is known to be present. Dr. Vaughan expressed the hope that, were it practical and feasible, close cooperation would be established between all civilian and military health authorities throughout the country.

#### UNITED STATES DYESTUFFS

THE United States is the only country that has succeeded in establishing a successful dyestuff industry since the war began, and it has been found that American dyes are as good as German dyes, according to a report made by the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. Formerly importing annually as much as \$10,000,000 worth of aniline dyes alone, this country exported during 10 months of last year \$12,500,000 worth of dyes to 21 foreign countries, and exports are growing rapidly. The largest purchaser last year was Britain, which used over \$3,000,000 worth of dyes in 10 months.

In view of her situation as to dyes, Britain is congratulating herself on the recent cap-

ture of the recipes of 257 German dyes. It is said that these were secured with great danger and difficulty by British textile firms, assisted by the British foreign office. Professor Philip B. Kennedy, commercial attaché of the American Embassy in London, who cabled the news to the United States Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, says that it is reported that all the recipes have been tested in Switzerland by F. M. Rowe, of the Manchester School of Technology, and certified by a British consular officer. The recipes will be given to the British government, which will establish a dye industry in England.

Delegations from the greatest British dye firms and from those in Switzerland are now in this country to obtain information about the American dyestuff industry, with a view to coordinating their efforts with this country's in covering the world markets after the war.

In this connection it is regarded as particularly significant that some 200 manufacturers of dyestuffs from all parts of the country planned to meet at the Chemists' Club in New York on the twenty-second and twenty-third of January for the purpose of forming a national association. This association when formed will pay particular attention to the high quality of American dyestuffs and the standardization of colors.

Throughout this meeting it is hoped that some coordinated plan may be reached by American manufacturers to cover the foreign field for American dyestuffs in the future.

Among the developments in American-made dyestuffs has been the perfecting of vegetable dyes and mordants. One which has served a particularly useful purpose has been the osage orange dyes, first exploited by the Department of Agriculture, and developed for utilization as khaki dyes for uniform cloth.

#### THE BOARD OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

THE last session of the State Legislature of Illinois adopted a Civil Administrative Code which provided for a very complete reorganization of the civil administration of the state government in order to secure greater econ-

omy and efficiency. The following departments were created: Finance, agriculture, labor, mines and minerals; public works and buildings, public welfare, public health, trade and commerce and registration and education. A director of each was appointed by the governor. Provision is made for the preparation of a state budget in connection with each department, and in this and in many other ways it is expected that increased economy and efficiency will be secured in the administrative work of the state.

The Department of Registration and Education has charge of the work previously under the Board of Education of the state of Illinois, and the boards of trustees of the state normal schools. It also exercises the powers and duties vested by law in the boards of examiners for physicians, dentists, pharmacists, etc., and supervises the work of the Natural History Survey, Geological Survey and Water Survey of the state. In exercising the latter duty the director of the department is assisted by a Board of Natural Resources and Conservation, which acts through five or more subcommittees, each of which is composed of the director of Registration and Education, the president of the University of Illinois, or his representative, and the expert adviser, specially qualified in each of the fields of investigation covered by the surveys.

The first meeting of the full Board of Natural Resources and Conservation was held at the University of Illinois on Saturday, December 15, 1917. There were present, Director Francis W. Shepardson, who presided at the meeting, Dean David Kinley, representing the president of the University of Illinois, Professor T. C. Chamberlin, Professor John M. Coulter, Mr. John W. Alvord, Professor William Trelease and Professor W. A. Noyes, members of the board, and Professor S. A. Forbes, Mr. Frank W. DeWolf, Professor T. E. Savage, Mr. G. C. Habermeyer and Mr. W. T. Monfort, representing the Natural History Survey, the Geological Survey and the Water Survey.

Professor W. A. Noyes was chosen secretary of the board. The following divisions were organized in accordance with the provisions of

the Civil Administrative Code of the State of Illinois:

1. The State Natural History Survey Division, which includes the duties formerly exercised by the state entomologist and the State Laboratory of Natural History,
2. The State Geological Survey Division, and
3. The State Water Survey Division.

The board was organized to include the following subcommittees:

- (a) A subcommittee in the Natural History Survey Division, including the director, the representative of the president of the University of Illinois, Professor S. A. Forbes, *chief*, Professor John M. Coulter.
- (b) A subcommittee in the Natural History Survey Division, including the director, the representative of the president of the University of Illinois, Professor S. A. Forbes; *chief*, Professor William Trelease.
- (c) A subcommittee in the Geological Survey Division, including the director, the representative of the president of the University of Illinois, Mr. Frank W. DeWolf; *chief*, Professor T. C. Chamberlin.
- (d) A subcommittee in the Water Survey Division, including the director, the representative of the president of the University of Illinois, Mr. W. T. Monfort, Professor W. A. Noyes.
- (e) A subcommittee in the Water Survey Division, including the director, the representative of the president of the University of Illinois, Mr. G. C. Habermeyer, and Mr. John W. Alvord.

Professor S. A. Forbes was appointed chief of the Natural History Survey Division, Mr. Frank W. DeWolf, chief of the Geological Survey Division, and Professor Edward Bartow, chief of the Water Survey Division.

The chiefs of the respective surveys were requested to prepare a brief statement of the character of the work done by similar scientific surveys and bureaus in other states, and to recommend directions in which the work of our surveys should be developed.

Reports were received from the chiefs of the respective surveys with regard to the work which is now in progress and which has been completed during the past year.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

At the annual election for officers of the American Philosophical Society, held on Jan-