

The campaign of the anti-vivisectionists is waged, now as always, with no other weapons than those of calumny and falsehood. They deliberately and persistently make the most abominable accusations against men who have done and are doing an enormous amount of successful work to mitigate human suffering and to save human life. Incidentally, these same workers are conferring like advantages on innumerable domestic animals, but let that pass. The immediate issue is that interference with animal experimentation just now decreases the safety of the men in our army and navy, makes impossible, so far as the interference is effective, the conquest of several terrible diseases to which the fighters for liberty are still exposed, and sets up the absurd claims of fanatic degenerates against the well-demonstrated truths of medical science.

And the Red Cross cautiously says that it does not take sides for or against "vivisection"! Such caution is reprehensible—is utterly unworthy of that great and beneficent organization. It should take sides, standing for right and against wrong. The immediate profit of doing anything else or less will be dearly bought in future loss of both money and respect. Red Cross money, in the amount that was proposed, could not possibly have been better invested than in the establishment of a biological laboratory near the scene of war for the study of the maladies of soldiers which this sort of research has not yet conquered. It was weak, and worse than weak, for the Red Cross to heed the hysterical shrieks and the monstrous charges of venality and murder that came from a few people whom it strains charity to call deluded or insane.

THE JOINT INFORMATION BOARD ON MINERALS AND DERIVATIVES

FOR the purpose of systematizing the handling of official inquiries regarding minerals and mineral products the Joint Information Board on Minerals and Derivatives has been formed. This body, which will serve as a clearing house to secure the prompt preparation and transmittal of data from a single authoritative source without duplication effort, is composed of representatives from the various government bureaus, boards and departments interested.

The war has caused an increased demand by various officials for all available information regarding raw materials essential to the government, and this demand has caused a notable

increase in the work and the personnel of those bureaus that had in the past been directly concerned in mineral investigations.

This joint board was created to coordinate the activities of all concerned. Its purpose in no wise curtails but supplements the existing activities; its function is to make the equipment and personnel of the various bodies concerned better known and more readily available to the other organizations and to bring about an even more effective operation.

Mr. Pope Yeatman, of the War Industries Board, Division of Raw Materials, is chairman of the Joint Information Board, and all inquiries should be addressed to Edson S. Bastin, Secretary Joint Information Board on Minerals and Derivatives, Room 5037, New Interior Building, Washington, D. C.

Following are the government departments and official organizations and names of representatives on the board:

War Department.—Bureau of Ordnance, Lieutenant Colonel R. P. Lamont, Sixth and B Streets NW.

Navy Department.—Bureau of Ordnance, Commander R. S. Holmes, Lieutenant Commander N. W. Pickering, New Interior Department Building.

War Industries Board.—Division of Raw Materials, L. L. Summers, Pope Yeatman (chairman Joint Information Board), Council of National Defense Building. Division of Statistics, F. G. Tryon, H. R. Aldrich; Commercial Economy Board, M. T. Copeland; Council of National Defense Building. Bureau of Investigations and Research, F. H. Macpherson, Council of National Defense Building.

Department of Agriculture.—Bureau of Plant Industry, K. F. Kellerman; Bureau of Soils, Frederick W. Brown; Bureau of Animal Industry, R. M. Chapin; Bureau of Chemistry, W. W. Skinner; Federal Insecticide and Fungicide Board, John K. Haywood.

Department of Commerce.—Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, C. D. Snow, assistant chief; Bureau of Standards, Henry D. Hubbard.

Treasury Department.—Bureau of the Mint, Frederick P. Dewey; Division of Customs, George W. Ashworth; Office of Internal Revenue, A. B. Adams.

Interior Department.—Geological Survey, Adson S. Bastin (secretary of Joint Information Board); Frank J. Katz, New Interior Department Build-

ing; Bureau of Mines, Harvey S. Mudd, New Interior Department Building.

U. S. Food Administration.—Division of Chemicals, Charles W. Merrill.

U. S. Fuel Administration.—Oil Division, Thomas Cox; Coal Division, C. E. Leshner, New Interior Department Building.

U. S. Shipping Board.—C. K. Leith, J. E. Spurr, New Interior Department Building.

War Trade Board.—Bureau of Research, S. H. Salomon, 1027 Vermont Avenue; Bureau of Imports, Lincoln Hutchinson, Bond Building; Bureau of Exports, S. C. Thompson, 1435 K Street NW.

U. S. Tariff Commission.—Guy C. Riddell, 1322 New York Avenue NW.

Department of State.—Consular Service, H. A. Havens.

U. S. National Museum.—Division of Mineral Technology, Chester G. Gilbert.

Federal Trade Commission.—C. C. Houghton, 921 Fifteenth Street NW.

National Research Council.—John Johnston, 1023 Sixteenth Street NW.; Section of Metallurgy, H. M. Howe, 1023 Sixteenth Street NW.; Division of Geology and Geography, John C. Merriam, 1023 Sixteenth Street NW.

Director General of Railroads.—Car Service Section, G. F. Richardson, Interstate Commerce Building.

PHYSICIANS FOR THE ARMY AND NAVY SERVICE

DR. FRANKLIN MARTIN, chairman of the committee on medicine of the advisory commission of the Council of National Defense, appeals for an increased enrollment of doctors for service as medical officers in the Army and Navy.

Surgeon-General Gorgas asks for 5,000 medical men for the Army with which to establish a reserve as fast as the 16,000 medical officers now in training and in uniform are ordered to France. While men between the ages of 25 and 45 are most desirable, the maximum age limit for medical officers is 55 years. Physicians are commissioned as first lieutenants, captains and majors. After acceptance of their commissions they are given a reasonable length of time in which to arrange their affairs before assignment to active duty.

An increased demand for naval medical officers has been created by the additional re-

sponsibility of the Navy in protecting ships engaged in the transportation of troops and supplies to Europe. The following letter from Surgeon-General Braisted is self-explanatory:

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 5, 1918.

DR. FRANKLIN MARTIN,

Council of National Defense.

My Dear Doctor: May I request the cooperation of the Council of National Defense in conveying to the medical profession the fact that the Medical Department of the Navy is urgently in need of additional medical officers? Anything that you can do to assist us in filling these needs will be greatly appreciated.

Thanking you in advance for this, as well as for your many acts of cooperation in the past, I am,

Very sincerely, yours,

W. C. BRAISTED,

Surgeon General, U. S. Navy

Two thousand medical officers are required to meet the demands for immediate expansion and to establish a reserve.

Application blanks may be obtained from the Surgeon General of the Army, the Surgeon General of the Navy, the Council of National Defense, or examining boards for medical officers located in all the large cities of the country.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

MR. SAMUEL HENSHAW has been appointed director of the Harvard University Museum.

DR. JOHN JOHNSTON, of the Geophysical Laboratory of the Carnegie Institution, has been appointed secretary of the National Research Council.

DR. STEPHEN SMITH has resigned as member of the New York State Board of Charities, an office which he has held for many years. Dr. Smith was ninety-five years of age on February 19.

PROFESSOR RUSSELL H. CHITTENDEN, director of the Scientific School of Yale University, Professor Graham Lusk, of the Cornell Medical School and Mr. John L. Simpson, of the United States Food Administration, have been representing the United States at the inter-allied food conference in Paris. The immediate purpose of the conference is to establish