School of Oriental Studies	4,000
North Sea Fisheries Investigation	—
Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland	500
Edinburgh Observatory	1,691

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH

Grants for investigation and research	56,500
Fuel Research Station	7,000
National Physical Laboratory	89,750

THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AND THE WAR

A WAR conference of secretaries of the constituent State Associations of the American Medical Association was held at the headquarters of the association on April 30. From the *Journal* of the association we learn that the meeting was called to order by Dr. Alexander R. Craig, secretary of the association. Dr. Thomas McDavitt, of St. Paul, chairman of the board of trustees, was elected chairman, and Dr. A. R. Craig, secretary. Dr. McDavitt emphasized the great importance of the meeting. He said the government had made a new call for physicians. There are already in the service, in the different corps, at the present time about 20,000 physicians. The issues involved are so great that the government is anxious to have an excess if possible. The 5,000 physicians that are requested now do not provide for an excess.

Dr. Arthur Dean Bevan, president-elect of the association, spoke of the importance of a survey of every state with a view of recording exactly how many medical men there are in each state, and how many have applied for commissions in the Medical Reserve Corps. This work, he said, can be perfected, as is contemplated and as requested by the Surgeon-General of the Army, by the American Medical Association through its county and state societies.

Dr. Charles Mayo, president of the association, said:

The medical profession was almost the first to become well organized before the war began, because we have had an organization for a long time. So far as the association is concerned, it was easy for organized medicine to get the names of the men we needed to do their bit. In fact, they had been doing their bit by going over to help Britain, France and Serbia in every possible way.

Our profession is organized, but around the outskirts is a great deal of disorganization that has been held over from the methods of the profession in advancing their work in education. In the early period there were in Washington about eighteen bureaus, boards and departments that had to do with medicine. Each of these bureaus and departments spends a great deal of money, and there is absolutely no coordination and no one will let go. Each head wants to be chairman of the committee to look after it. The more we study the question, the more we find that there will be no change until we get a real department of health with an officer in the cabinet to look after it, and then we will have an organization.

A serious problem comes to mind in relation to France. There they have not had any medical schools running for four years. In England the same thing is true. With the natural death rate of doctors and no new degrees granted, it means a great deduction, and the danger that when the schools have started again, there will be lowered standards. I think organized medicine in this country did great service in seeing to it that the government did not in developing draft laws break up the medical schools. I think that has been one of the greatest features shown by organized medicine.

The thing I have been hoping for is that funds may be obtained to develop a great medical teaching institution in Paris. From letters received from the French government, the president and others high in authority, this idea is approved. We could move our men over there a thousand at a time and they could be trained by men at the front who for four years have had at their fingers' ends things that we can not possibly get in this country. I would suggest to turn over now for teaching purposes two thirds to the Americans and one third to France, and after the war make France a present of it, and make Paris the center for American medical study in Europe. It takes a lot of money to run such an institution, but it looks as though the money might be raised. It is estimated that it would take from $100,000 to $150,000 under present circumstances to run such a school for a year. It is most difficult to bring about such a thing under government control. Something like that must be planned by organized medicine, but not by government organized medicine, and turned over to the Surgeon-General for the period of the war. Surgeon-General Gorgas could easily detail

men in the service for temporary duty for the education of these men and give them one month or two months of lectures, and without disorganization we could give our surgeons the absolutely necessary instruction and all around service we have been trying to develop in a more or less haphazard way.

THE INTERALLIED SCIENTIFIC FOOD COMMISSION

At an interallied conference, which was held last November in Paris, it was agreed, according to the *British Medical Journal,* that a Scientific Food Committee should be formed containing two delegates from each of the following countries: Great Britain, France, Italy and America. This committee was to have its permanent seat in Paris, and was to meet periodically in order to examine, from the scientific point of view, the interallied program for food supplies. It was empowered to make any propositions to the allied governments which it thought fit. The delegates appointed from the various countries were: Great Britain: Professor E. H. Starling and Professor T. B. Wood; France: Professor Ch. Richet and Professor E. Gley; Italy: Professor Bottazzi and Professor Pagliani; America: Professor R. H. Chittenden and Professor Graham Lusk. The first meeting of this Commission was held in Paris on March 25, and the following days. At their first sitting the commission was received by M. Victor Boret, minister of agriculture and food. In his opening address M. Boret pointed out that the object of the conference was to study the best means of utilizing the very small food resources at the disposal of the allies so as to effect an equitable distribution of the available food supplies among the allies, having proper regard to the facts of physiology and political economy. He sketched shortly the work of the commission, and his suggestions were embodied later in a series of questions which were adopted by the commission as the problems that would immediately occupy its attention. The commission agreed to establish a permanent central secretariat in Paris, M. Alquier being appointed secretary. In addition to the central secretariat it was agreed that a secretary to the commission should be appointed in each of the allied countries. At its meetings, which lasted till March 29, the commission considered many important questions relating to the minimum food requirements of man, and to the production and distribution of food supplies. The commission will reassemble at intervals, in Paris or in some other of the allied capitals. Professor Gley has stated that it will probably meet next at Rome towards the end of this month.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

Professor Dugald C. Jackson, of the department of electrical engineering of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has been called to France as a major in the Engineer Reserve Corps.

Professor Philip B. Woodworth, dean of electrical engineering of Lewis Institute, Chicago, has entered the government service as a major in the aviation section of the Signal Corps.

Dr. H. E. Wells, professor of chemistry at Washington and Jefferson College, has been commissioned captain in the Chemical Service Section of the National Army.

Dr. George Winchester, professor of physics of Washington and Jefferson College, has been commissioned first lieutenant in the aviation section of the Signal Corps, and is now in France.

Mr. Lawrence Erickson has resigned an instructorship in botany in the New York State College of Agriculture and has enlisted in the Coast Artillery.

Dr. Lewis Knudson, professor of botany in the New York State College of Agriculture, has obtained a leave of absence and is now in Y. M. C. A. work in France.

Calvin H. Crouch, who for seventeen years has been at the head of the mechanical engineering in the University of North Dakota, has accepted a position at Mt. Holyoke, Mass., with the Deane Plant of the Worthington Pump and Machinery Corporation, which is making war material for the government.

J. Ansel Brooks, professor of mechanics and mechanical drawing at Brown University, has