

fense appliances, including gas-filling plants and proving grounds utilized in connection therewith.

5. All unexpended funds of appropriations heretofore made for the Medical Department or Ordnance Department and already allotted for use in connection with the operation and maintenance of plants now engaged in, or under construction for the purpose of engaging in, the investigation, manufacture or production of toxic gases or gas defense appliances, including gas-shell filling plants, are hereby transferred to, and placed under the jurisdiction of the director of the Chemical Warfare Service for the purpose of meeting the obligations and expenditures authorized; and, in so far as such funds have not been already specifically allotted by the Medical Department and the Ordnance Department for the purposes specified herein, they shall now be allotted by the Secretary of War, in such proportions as shall to him seem best intended to meet the requirements of the situation and the intentions of Congress when making said appropriations, and the funds so allotted by the Secretary of War to meet the activities of the Chemical Warfare Service, as heretofore defined herein, are hereby transferred to, and placed under the jurisdiction of, the director of the Chemical Warfare Service for the purpose of meeting the authorized obligations and expenditures of the Chemical Warfare Service.

6. This order shall be and remain in full force and effect during the continuation of the present war and for six months after the determination thereof by proclamation of the treaty of peace, or until theretofore amended, modified or rescinded.

II. By direction of the President, Major General William L. Sibert, United States Army, is relieved from duty as director of the Gas Service, and is detailed as director of the Chemical Warfare Service, National Army.

TRAINING OF COLLEGE STUDENTS FOR MEDICAL CORPS OFFICERS¹

THE Medical Department of the Army, through the National Research Council, will shortly issue an appeal to American colleges and universities urging them to alter their curriculum so that third and fourth year students may receive special training which will enable them to qualify as officers and for other work in the Medical Department.

The appeal will be sent to all the principal colleges and universities in the country, but as

¹ Publication authorized by the War Department from the office of the Surgeon General.

it is realized that important institutions may not for various reasons receive the appeal, the request is made that all directing heads of such institutions write to either Dr. Richard M. Pearce, of the National Research Council, Washington, or to the Division of Laboratories, Office of the Surgeon-General, Washington, for details of the proposed plan.

These colleges will render valuable assistance to the government by offering these special course to their students who will enter the Army when they become of age or in the event that they volunteer before that time. The students desired are those who are taking the various scientific courses. The course proposed by the Medical Department should appeal to men who are specializing in biology, zoology, plant pathology, and in industrial and agricultural bacteriology.

In a number of institutions the necessary courses can be arranged by a simple modification of the already existing course in bacteriology with added emphasis on special subjects of value to the Army.

After completing such courses arrangements for enlistment can be made through the Surgeon-General's Office if the applicant is under draft age, and if of draft age he can be inducted into the service and assigned where his special training will be of value.

This plan has already been tested in two colleges and the success attained has led the Medical Department to apply it to as many colleges as possible. From one such institution every man taking the modified course was admitted directly into the Army and went to one of the training schools, where a portion of them will later qualify for commissions in the Sanitary Corps. Others have qualified for positions at field or mobile laboratory units and as assistants in base and evacuation hospitals.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. JAMES F. NORRIS, who has been with the Bureau of Mines Experiment Station, has been commissioned a lieutenant-colonel in the Chemical Service Section of the National Army and is to be stationed in London as the