

tions which, upon being carried out, resulted in many advantageous changes.

Although the principal work of these groups was inspection of the manner of handling and preparing food, the visiting officers were able to give considerable instruction in the principles of nutrition, the proper selection of foods, and the construction of dietaries to mess officers, medical officers and others who were interested. Detailed personal instruction was given to the mess personnel on some of these topics, as well as on the various methods of avoiding waste, the importance of keeping kitchens and mess halls clean and orderly, and the methods of judging and storing food.

Survey parties were instructed to seek in every possible way to reduce waste. It was found that men and officers were very willing to cooperate in making surveys and to reduce as much as possible the waste of food. One of the most effective means adopted for this purpose was introduced at one camp and followed later at other camps.

At this camp seven companies were selected from various organizations, totaling 1,135 men. A two-day survey was run on each mess, and the average edible waste was found to be 1.12 pounds per man per day. Instructions were then given to the mess sergeants and cooks in matters of food and mess economy, and when the officer in charge was satisfied that they had a reasonable understanding of the subject a second two-day survey was made. This showed an average edible waste of 0.43 pound per man per day—a saving of 0.69 pound. This saving amounted to \$61.75 per day for the seven messes, or at the same rate would amount to \$22,542 per year. If the same rate of saving were brought about for the entire camp, in this case approximately 15,000 men, it would amount to \$338,000 a year.

Work of this character showed the necessity of keeping a nutrition officer in each camp at all times so that he might advise about the composition and nutritive value of dietaries, make inspections for adulterations, spoilage, and deterioration, and to cooperate with the mess officials.

Sixty new officers are to be commissioned in

the division of food and nutrition to handle the additional work. All will be food specialists similar to those already in the service.

#### GREETINGS TO FRANCE FROM BRITISH SOCIETIES

MESSAGES to France on the occasion of France's day have been dispatched by all the leading societies and institutions in Great Britain, including the following scientific societies:

*British Association.*—Nineteen years ago the Dover meeting of the British Association was "so arranged that the two great nations which had been, a century earlier, grappling in a fierce struggle should in the persons of their men of science draw as near together as they could." Another joint meeting with France was on the point of taking place when our high hopes of lasting general peace were so cruelly destroyed. But out of the destruction has arisen a far closer union of our two peoples, and an even brighter prospect of our future cooperation for the good of humanity and science.

*Royal Society.*—The Royal Society of London sends greetings to the French nation and more especially to its scientific men. It recalls the intimate friendship which since their foundation has bound together the Académie des Sciences with its own body. Always united in their endeavor to promote the advance of science, they are now joined in their efforts to defend the cause of civilization and freedom.

*British Academy.*—To France, who has so often inspired and led civilization in Europe; to France, who upholds the banner of intellectual freedom and unfettered thought; to France, who for nearly four years has endured brutal outrage and the violation of all decencies of humanity and civilization, the British Academy, in the name of British scholarship, sends on this great anniversary a renewed assurance of loyal fraternity and of unshaken determination to continue the conflict until liberty is secured and French soil delivered from the desecration of the invader.

*Royal College of Surgeons of England.*—Brothers-in-Arms, we greet you. Bound by ancient ties of blood and by the memories of many a gallant contest in the past, to-day we stand as one nation united in a sacred cause. We have before us a happy presage from the past. As the united efforts of Pasteur and Lister have laid low the tyranny of disease, so shall France and Britain

conquer a tyranny still more remorseless. Our future brightens, and shall endow Gaul and Briton with a common birthright to remain a splendid heritage for all time.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE hundredth annual meeting of the Swiss Association for the Natural Sciences will be held at Lugano from September 7 to 11. The committee on organization states that the continuation of the meetings is of value equally to science and to the country. Public lectures will be given as follows: Parthenogenesis and apogamy, by Professor Ernst, of Zurich; The Swiss national parks, by Professor Schroeter, of Zurich; Man from the point of view of medicine and natural science, by Professor Nägeli, of Zurich; On the constitution of the chemical elements, by Professor Berthoud, of Neuchâtel. The association meets in twelve sections: (1) Mathematics; (2) Physics; (3) Geophysics, Meteorology and Astronomy; (4) Chemistry; (5) Geology; (6) Botany; (7) Zoology; (8) Entomology; (9) Medicine; (10) Pharmacy; (11) Engineering; (12) Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

DR. SAMUEL AVERY, formerly director of the chemical laboratories in the University of Nebraska, and for several years chancellor of that institution, has been commissioned major in the Chemical Warfare Service, N. A., and placed in charge of the University Relations Section. Dr. Avery has been granted a leave of absence by the regents of the university for the period of the war.

COLONEL JOHN M. T. FINNEY, chief surgical consultant of the American Expeditionary Forces, has returned home on a mission connected with his work overseas.

PROFESSOR E. C. FRANKLIN, of Stanford University, Professor W. J. A. Bliss, of Johns Hopkins University, and Professor C. M. Carson, of the Michigan School of Mines, are engaged for the summer on military work in the Chemistry Division of the Bureau of Standards.

DR. W. R. DODSON, dean of the college of agriculture of the University of Louisiana, and E. S. Brigham, commissioner of dairying of

Vermont, have become members of the Food Administration staff in Washington. Dr. Dodson has charge of problems of interest to both the Food Administration and the Department of Agriculture. Mr. Brigham will head the butter and cheese section. Dean H. L. Russell, of the College of Agriculture of the University of Wisconsin, who has rendered service to the Food Administration in the capacities which Dr. Dodson and Mr. Brigham now assume, has been recalled to Wisconsin by pressing duties at the university.

DR. WILLIAM C. FOWLER has assumed office as health officer of the District of Columbia, succeeding Dr. William C. Woodward, who resigned to accept the position of commissioner of health of Boston.

DR. J. N. LANGLEY, professor of physiology in the University of Cambridge, Sir F. W. Dyson, astronomer royal, Dr. Horace Lamb, professor of mathematics in the University of Manchester, and Sir E. Rutherford, Langworthy professor and director of physical laboratories in the University of Manchester, have been elected foreign members of the Royal Academy "dei Lincei," Rome.

DR. BARTON WARREN EVERMANN, director of the museum, Dr. John Van Denburgh, curator of the department of herpetology, and Mr. Joseph R. Slevin, assistant curator, department of herpetology of the California Academy of Sciences, have returned from a collecting trip through northern California and southern Oregon. The principal object of the trip was to make collections of reptiles, amphibians, and birds' nests and eggs for the academy museum. The trip was made by machine and the party camped out most of the time. Very large collections were obtained.

MR. E. P. VAN DUZEE, curator department of entomology of the California Academy of Sciences, is spending the summer in northern California making collections for that department. Dr. Roy E. Dickerson, curator, department of invertebrate paleontology, has been given leave for the remainder of the present calendar year in order that he may take up