

venereal, 9; non-venereal, 1; other surgical conditions, 59; convalescent, 111.

Total, 1,034.

The five hospitals reporting are: The Walter Reed, of Washington, D. C.; general No. 2, at Fort McHenry, Md.; general No. 6, at Fort McPherson, Ga.; general No. 9, at Lakewood, N. J.; and general No. 17, at Markleton, Pa.

THE VOLUNTEER MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS

UNDER a plan announced on August 13 by Dr. Franklin Martin, chairman of the General Medical Board, Council of National Defense, the medical men and women of the country are to be mobilized by the Volunteer Medical Service Corps. This organization is authorized by the Council of National Defense and approved by President Wilson.

The plan provides for the enrollment of every qualified physician, man or woman, without reference to age or physical disability, not now in the service of the government.

In a letter to Dr. Martin, approving the reorganization of the corps, President Wilson says:

In cooperation with the General Medical Board of the Council of National Defense, the strong governing board of the reorganized corps will be able to be of increasing service. Through it the finely trained medical profession of the United States is not only made ready for service in connection with the activities already mentioned, but the important work of the Provost-Marshal General's office and the Red Cross will be aided and the problems of the health and of the civilian communities of the United States assured consideration.

I am very happy to give my approval to the plans which you have submitted, both because of the usefulness of the Volunteer Medical Corps and also because it gives me an opportunity to express to you and through you to the medical profession my deep appreciation of the splendid service which the whole profession has rendered to the nation with great enthusiasm from the beginning of the present emergency.

The health of the army and the navy, the health of the country at large, is due to the cooperation which the public authorities have had from the medical profession; the spirit of sacrifice and service has been everywhere present and the record of

the mobilization of the many forces of this great republic will contain no case of readier response or better service than that which the physicians have rendered.

Members of the corps will be divided into three classes:

Fit to fight, men under forty.

Reserves, under fifty-five.

Home forces, over fifty-five.

Reserves will consist of those who may be called upon for the army, navy, public health service and civilian service when necessity requires. The home forces are those who are able to do civilian service only.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE American Central Medical Department Laboratory has been inaugurated in a French university town. Lieutenant Colonel George B. Foster, Jr., is the director. Among the scientific men who have been working at the laboratory are Major William J. Esler, professor of bacteriology at Cornell University; Major Richard P. Strong, professor of tropical diseases at the Harvard Medical School; Major Hans Zinsser, professor of bacteriology at Columbia University; Major W. B. Canon, professor of physiology at the Harvard Medical School.

DR. OSCAR H. SELLINGS, Columbus, Ohio, who was recently placed in charge of the work of the American Red Cross for the children of Marseilles, France, has been made head of the temporary commission sent by the American Red Cross to Italy.

L. W. CHASE, professor of agricultural engineering at the University of Nebraska, has been appointed major in the Ordnance Corps, U. S. Army.

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR HARVEY B. LEMON, of the department of physics, University of Chicago, has been commissioned captain in the Ordnance Department of the Army and assigned to duty as head of the instrument division of the proof department of the Aberdeen Proving Ground, Aberdeen, Md.

PROFESSOR MAX M. ELLIS, of the department of biology of the University of Colorado, has

been given leave to accept a commission as first lieutenant in the Sanitary Corps. He is stationed at Mineola, L. I., for work with the Medical Research Board of the Air Service Division.

DR. C. A. BRAUTLECHT, professor of chemistry in the Florida State College for Women, has been called into the Sanitary Corps as first lieutenant. He is stationed at the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research at New York.

DR. JAMES F. KEMP, formerly professor of geology in Columbia University, has left Tulsa, Oklahoma, to resume permanent residence in New York.

DR. M. LEBREDO, a leading hygienist and bacteriologist of Cuba and a member of the editorial staff of the *Revista de Medicina y Cirugia* of Havana, has been appointed a member of the Rockefeller Institute and is leaving on a scientific mission for Ecuador on behalf of the institute.

G. I. CHRISTIE, superintendent of agricultural extension of Purdue University, has been granted leave of absence to become assistant to the secretary of agriculture, in charge of farm-labor problems. T. A. Coleman, state leader of county agents, will serve as extension director during his absence.

PROFESSOR G. A. MILLER, of the University of Illinois, has accepted the chairmanship of a committee which is to make a survey of the mathematical instruction given under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A. at the various naval stations.

DR. LUCIUS P. BROWN, who, following an investigation of the health department by the Hyman administration, was tried on charges of neglect of duty and acquitted, has been unanimously reinstated as director of the bureau of foods and drugs of the New York Health Department.

WILLIAM EARL HIDDEN, known for his work in mineralogy, died at Ocean Grove, N. J., on June 12, 1918, at the age of sixty-five years.

THE death is announced, on July 14, of Dr. R. O. Cunningham, emeritus professor of natural history and geology, Queen's College, Belfast, at the age of seventy-six years.

DR. ALFRED SENIER, since 1891 professor of chemistry in Queen's College and University College, Galway, Ireland, died on June 29, aged sixty-five years. His parents, about two years after his birth, emigrated to Wisconsin, where he received his early education; in due course he attended the universities of Wisconsin and Michigan. Professor Senier's researches in organic chemistry were devoted mainly to the cyanuric acids, to the acridines and to phototropic and thermotropic phenomena.

PROFESSOR J. BISHOP TINGLE, of McMaster University, Toronto, died at Ottawa, on August 6, after an illness of some weeks. Dr. Tingle was born at Sheffield, England, in 1866, and received his early training at the Royal Grammar School of Sheffield and at Owens College, Manchester. He took his degree, after working with Claisen at Munich, in 1889. He came to America in 1896 and after some years at Lewis Institute, Chicago, Illinois College, Jacksonville and Johns Hopkins University was appointed to the chair of chemistry at McMaster University. He was elected fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in May, 1918. He was the author of a considerable number of scientific papers. Several of his students are already rising to positions of prominence as chemists. He was a pioneer, against much discouragement, in training young women for laboratory positions under war conditions. He married Sarah Ellen Capps, of Jacksonville, Illinois, in 1906. She survives him with a daughter and a son, also a younger brother and sister. Dr. Tingle was a valued friend to those who knew him intimately and he always took a close personal interest in the future of his students.

For the care and conditioning of fliers in the Air Service the United States Government is now appointing a corps of doctors and trainers large enough to equip each training field and camp for fliers, both here in the United States and in France, with a proper organization. The doctors will be known as flight surgeons and the trainers as physical directors. The medical branch of the Air Service is not alone confined to the selection of the flier but to his care and condition after

he has been admitted to the service. It has become apparent that the flier is unlike other soldiers. In the Air Service he has become an intricate, highly sensitized piece of mechanism with troubles all his own. To keep his complex organism physically fit a special master mechanic had to be provided solely for him. The flight surgeon, therefore, has been given freedom of independent initiative in all questions of fitness of the fliers. Subject to the approval of the commanding officer, he is expected to institute such measures as periods of rest, recreations, and temporary excuse from duty as may seem advisable. He takes sick calls of aviators, he visits such cases as may be in the hospital and consults with the attending surgeon regarding them. He makes the examination of candidates for aviation and lives in close touch with fliers. The physical directors are assistants to the flight surgeons and their duty is to supervise such recreation and physical training of the fliers as is considered necessary.

A THREE months' course at New York University and Bellevue Medical College will begin on September 4 for laboratory assistants, trained in bacteriological work. They are needed for immediate service for camp and hospital work. The course is in response to a request of the surgeon general's office of the War Department. There will be daily sessions from 9 to 5, except Saturdays. Efforts to secure scholarships covering the cost of tuition for expressly qualified women will be made. Further information can be secured from Dr. William H. Park, at the Department of Health laboratory, foot of East Sixteenth Street.

NEARLY 50,000 physicians will be required for war service eventually, according to the Army and navy authorities, and in order to prevent the disorganizing of their teaching staffs of the medical schools, it is proposed to commission all teachers and assign them to their present duties. Of the 143,000 doctors in the United States it is estimated that between 80,000 and 95,000 are in active practise and that 23,000 are in the Army or Navy.

THE War Department has approved the request of the director of Chemical Warfare Service to furlough back to approved institutions a limited number of teachers of chemistry. This furlough will be administered by the committee on education and special training, old Land Office Building, Washington, D. C., upon recommendation of the officer in charge of university relations, Chemical Warfare Service. Approved institutions which have already lost many of their instructors through draft or enlistment may now make application for the return of such men, provided that the return is agreeable to the men themselves. In the event of failure to secure the men asked for, the relations section may be able to provide for the assignment of other men whose qualifications would seem to fit them to carry on the work of instruction. Application for furlough of enlisted men should be made to Chemical Warfare Service, University Relations Section, Seventh and B streets, Washington, D. C.

A BILL "to prohibit the importation of nursery stock into the United States in order to prevent the introduction of insect pests and plant diseases" (Senate Bill No. 3344) has been introduced by Senator Weeks of Massachusetts. The bill is of considerable interest to entomologists, plant pathologists, horticulturists, and all who have observed the repeated introduction of insects and plant diseases on imported nursery stock, particularly during the past fifteen years. The bill provides that it shall be unlawful for any person to import or offer for entry into the United States any nursery stock, with the exception of field, vegetable and flower seeds, bedding plants and other herbaceous plants, bulbs and roots. It is provided, however, that the Secretary of Agriculture may import, grow, and propagate nursery stock for experimental and scientific purposes, and after holding this stock in quarantine for a length of time sufficient to establish its freedom from insect pests and plant diseases, he may distribute it under such regulations as may be necessary.

THE United States Coast and Geodetic Survey has issued a map of the north Atlantic Ocean, including the eastern part of North America and the greater part of Europe. The western limits of the map are Duluth to New Orleans; the eastern limits Bagdad to Cairo; extending from Greenland in the north to the West Indies in the south. The scale is 1:10,000,000. The map brings the two continents vis-a-vis in an approximately true relation and scale in an extremely clear manner, and will serve as an excellent base for various purposes. It is constructed on a system of projection which is peculiarly adapted to this wide expanse, and is known as the Lambert Conformal Conic Projection with two standard parallels. The scale on the two standard parallels (36 middle parallel (41 degrees north) it is but 1½ per cent. too small, and beyond the standard degrees and 54 degrees north) is true; on the parallels the scale becomes increasingly large. The map covers a range of longitude of 170 degrees on the middle parallel—a range which on many other projections of this area would have distinctions and scale errors so great as to render their use inadmissible. This map can be obtained by writing to the department of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey. The map is 24 by 46 inches, No. 3,070 and sells for 50 cents.

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association states that for seventeen years Dr. M. Uribe Troncoso edited the *Anales de Oftalmologia* in Mexico, but with his recent removal to New York, this journal was merged with others to form the *American Journal of Ophthalmology*. The Mexican Ophthalmologic Society, of which he was long president, has now decided to publish its own annals, and the *Anales de la Sociedad Oftalmologica Mexicana* has already made its appearance. Dr. D. M. Velez is director of the *Anales* and perpetual secretary of the society. Summaries of the two leading articles are given in both English and French, and duplicates are published on an insert for convenience of reviewers. The officers of the society for 1918 include Dr. F. Lopez, president; Dr. A. Chacon, vice-presi-

dent, and Dr. E. F. Montañó, perpetual treasurer.

THE Committees on Agriculture and on Administration and Commissions of the Massachusetts legislature have reported a bill to abolish the present Board of Agriculture and to substitute a board consisting of a commissioner of agriculture at \$5,000 annually and fourteen unpaid advisory associates, one from each county. The present board consists of forty odd members. The secretary is executive officer. The bill makes no provision for the proposed consolidation of the Board of Agriculture with the Bureau of Animal Industry, State Forestry Department and Fish and Game Commission.

ON April 9 an allotment of \$25,000 was made by the President from the fund for the national security and defense for the purpose of enabling the Bureau of Fisheries to install a plant on the Pribilof Islands for the utilization of the by-products in connection with the taking of fur seals on these islands. This is regarded as vitally important at the present time in order to increase the production of oil and fertilizer. It is planned to make use of the carcasses which will result from the increased killings of fur seals this year. It is believed that the plant will more than pay for itself in the first season of its operation. Every effort is being made to obtain delivery of the plant in time to utilize the maximum quantity of seal carcasses during the current year. On April 27 the steamer *Roosevelt* left Seattle with a full cargo of general supplies for the Pribilof Islands. The cargo consisted of building materials, foodstuffs, and miscellaneous items. It was planned to return with utmost dispatch, bringing back such seal-skins as were ready for shipment, in order that another trip may be made as soon as possible to transport material for the by-products plant.

THE permanent secretary of the Paris Academy of Medicine has been authorized to accept, in the name of the academy, a legacy of 25,000 francs made by the late Dr. Magnan. The revenue from this sum will be used to establish a triennial prize to be awarded to the author of the best work on mental medicine.

AFTER due consideration of a number of proposals for the alteration of the British system of weights and measures, such as the compulsory adoption of the metric system and the decimalization of the existing weights and measures, the British trade committee has decided against any compulsory changes at the present juncture, but recommends a continuation of the efforts toward simplification in the teaching of weights and measures and the use of decimal subdivision of basic weights, such as the cental of 100 pounds instead of the hundredweight (112 pounds) and the short ton of 2,000 pounds. The committee recognizes the value of the proposal for the decimalization of the sovereign, which would be divided into 1,000 mils, the mil being worth 4 per cent. less than the farthing. It believes, however, that considering "the magnitude of the disturbance which the alteration in the value of the penny would cause in the lives of the great body of wage earners, retail shopkeepers and their customers . . . the introduction of such a change would be inexpedient at a time when the social, industrial and financial organization of the country will be faced with numerous and exceptional difficulties."

THE second reading of the British Coinage (Decimal System) Bill was moved by Lord Southwark in the House of Lords on June 4. Lord Leverhulme opposed the motion, though he was not against the principle of decimal coinage. He objected to making the sovereign the unit and dividing it into one thousand parts, and he thought that a British decimal system of coinage should be based upon the halfpenny. After discussion, the debate was adjourned on the understanding that the government will institute an inquiry into the whole question of decimal coinage, including the proposals contained in Lord Southwark's bill.

THE Bureau of Mines announces the perfection of a type of electric melting furnace that may be revolutionary in the making of brass. Patents on this furnace, known as the rocking electric furnace, have been taken out by the bureau and have been assigned to Secretary Lane as trustee. Free licenses to ope-

rate these furnaces under the patents, it is understood, can be obtained by making application through Van. H. Manning, director of the Bureau of Mines. The new furnace, which it is claimed will reduce the important losses in brass melting, is the result of five years' experimentation by H. W. Gillett, chemist of the Bureau of Mines, in cooperation with the laboratory of Cornell University, the American Institute of Metals, and a number of manufacturers of brass.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

By the will of the late Lord Rhondda the governing body of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, will receive out of the residue of his estate the sum of £20,000, to be applied at its discretion for the benefit of the college, but preferably in the establishment and maintenance of six to ten scholarships tenable at the college for mathematics, natural science, or moral science (including economics), preference being given, *ceteris paribus*, in the awarding of such scholarships to residents or sons of residents in Wales or Monmouthshire.

A. H. BENTON, assistant professor of farm management, at the University of Minnesota, has accepted a position as professor and chief of the division of farm management and rural economics at the Manitoba Agricultural College.

A. B. COBLE, associate professor of mathematics in Johns Hopkins University, has accepted a professorship of mathematics in the University of Illinois to begin work in September.

DR. AVEN NELSON has been appointed president of the University of Wyoming.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE PSEUDO-PSYCHOLOGY

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: Through no fault of their own, not a few instructors of elementary psychology to my knowledge spend many an arduous hour trying to indicate to indiscriminating minds both what psychology