

graph to these physicians by the Public Health Service, and within forty-eight hours groups of physicians were on their way to some of the stricken communities in New England, where the epidemic at that time raged most severely. Soon after, similar medical units were sent to New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, and to Phoenix, Ariz.

The problem of supplying nurses was much more difficult, for it was found almost impossible to discover nurses or trained attendants who were not already extremely busy on urgent medical work. Nevertheless, a limited number of nurses and trained attendants was secured by the American Red Cross and mobilized for emergency service in the communities most severely affected. In addition to this the attention of local communities was called to the valuable nursing work which could be rendered by intelligent volunteer workers, such as school teachers, especially when they are directed by trained graduate nurses. In many communities the organization of this group of nursing personnel has done much to relieve the serious emergency caused by the lack of trained nurses.

It was made clear from the outset that the United States Public Health Service desired to aid and not supplant state and local health authorities in their work. Accordingly, instructions were issued that all requests for medical, nursing, or other emergency aid in dealing with the epidemic should come to the United States Public Health Service only through the state health officer. Moreover, as soon as possible all this epidemic work was organized on state lines with a representative of the United States Public Health Service detailed to each state to secure the best possible organization and coordination of health activities of the service, in others the executive of the State board of health has been given appointment in the United States Public Health Service as field director.

While the activities of the doctors and nurses working under the Public Health Service are generally limited to those ordinarily regarded as preventive health measures, emergency conditions in some communities

have been such that much medical relief work has had to be undertaken. This was the case, for example, in several communities where the few practicing physicians were themselves stricken and where the people were in urgent need of medical attention.

#### FOREIGN DELEGATES TO THE AMERICAN CLINICAL CONGRESS

A PARTY of eminent surgeons from abroad, who came to the United States to attend the Clinical Congress which was given up on account of the influenza epidemic, has been making a tour accompanied by Lieutenant-Colonel George E. Brewer, M. C., U. S. Army, New York City; Colonel William J. Mayo, M. C., U. S. Army, Rochester, Minn.; Colonel Franklin H. Martin, M. C., U. S. Army, Chicago, and Dr. Pilcher, New York City. They have been entertained and have delivered addresses on various phases of military surgery in St. Paul, Rochester, Philadelphia, Chicago, New York, and other cities. The party consists of Colonel Sir Thomas Myles, Dublin, Ireland, Major G. Gray Turner, New Castle-on-Tyne, England, Colonel George E. Gask, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, Professor Raffaele Bastianelli and Major Pouletti, Rome, Major Pierre Duval and Lieutenant Henri Beclere, Paris, and Major Poillet, Ambre, France.

On November 6 they were the guests of the New York Fellows of the American College of Surgeons at a dinner at Delmonico's, presided over by Dr. J. Bentley Squier, the feature of which was the conferring upon the visitors of honorary fellowship in the college.

According to a press notice Dr. Squier, presided at the dinner. He reminded the gathering, including several hundred of the best known medical men here, that the clinical congress was to have undertaken important work in this country in October, but that the formal sessions had to be abandoned before the congress was convened because of the influenza epidemic.

Dr. Squier then introduced Colonel Franklin Martin, who related briefly the incidents of the delegates' journey. They went first to

Washington where they were received by President Wilson and his Cabinet. Then they traveled to Camp Greenleaf, the medical training camp where, Colonel Martin said, they presented the technical papers which were to have been read at the conference. Next the delegates went to St. Paul, Minn., where they visited the Mayo Clinic after which they went to Chicago, Philadelphia, and other important cities.

Colonel Martin introduced Colonel William J. Mayo, president of the American College of Surgeons, and then the candidates for honorary fellowships filed by the speaker's table, the little procession being led by General Ireland. He was escorted by Major General William C. Gorgas. As each member reached Colonel Mayo he halted long enough for Dr. Mayo to cite the achievements of the candidate.

General Ireland in his speech said that the fellowship was an unexpected honor and that he would treasure it as a trust to be held for the thousands of medical men of the American Army. Turning to a discussion of American Army medical experience abroad, General Ireland said wartime treatment of the sick and wounded had proved different in this war, and he paid generous thanks to the medical officers of the Allies for their aid to the Americans. Not only were the Americans taken to front-line formations and instructed, but important medical officers of the allied armies came monthly to the Research Council in Paris, thereby enabling that body to "do ineffable good and save countless lives." "American medical officers in France," General Ireland added, "have labored in France under many difficulties. Much of France's resources had been exhausted when we got there, and it was a splendid spirit with which our American doctors took up their great task. I think I may say that the achievement of American medical officers in France will add a bright page to American medical history. We still are short of personnel and material due to a lack of tonnage, over which we have no control, but I am confident these difficul-

ties will be overcome in time to enable us to accomplish all that lies before us."

#### DIVISIONAL OFFICERS OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

THE Divisions have elected the following officers for the ensuing year:

##### DIVISION OF INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTRY AND CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

*Chairman*, Harlan S. Miner; *Vice-chairman*, H. D. Batchelor; *Secretary*, H. E. Howe; *Executive Committee*, W. F. Hillebrand, S. W. Parr, A. W. Smith, David Wesson, J. G. Vail.

##### DIVISION OF BIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY

*Chairman*, I. K. Phelps; *Vice-chairman and Secretary*, R. A. Gortner; *Executive Committee*, W. D. Bancroft, C. L. Alsberg, W. J. V. Osterhout, H. S. Grindley, Frederick Fenger.

##### DIVISION OF ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

*Chairman*, Lauder W. Jones; *Vice-chairman and Secretary*, Harry L. Fisher; *Executive Committee*, R. F. Brunel, Wm. J. Hale, O. Kamm.

##### FERTILIZER DIVISION

*Chairman*, L. L. Van Slyke; *Secretary*, F. B. Carpenter; *Executive Committee*, R. N. Brockett, H. J. Wheeler, C. H. Jones, E. W. Magruder.

##### DIVISION OF WATER, SEWAGE AND SANITATION

*Chairman*, Robert Spurr Weston; *Vice-chairman*, J. W. Ellms; *Secretary*, W. W. Skinner.

##### DIVISION OF PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTRY

*Chairman*, F. O. Taylor; *Vice-chairman*, H. W. Rhodehamel; *Secretary*, G. D. Beal; *Executive Committee*, E. B. Carter, H. C. Fuller, Herman Engelhardt, W. D. McAbee.

##### DIVISION OF PHYSICAL AND INORGANIC CHEMISTRY

*Chairman*, W. E. Henderson; *Secretary-Treasurer*, W. A. Patrick; *Executive Committee*, H. P. Talbot, E. C. Franklin, C. James, R. B. Sosman, J. N. Swan.

##### DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD CHEMISTRY

*Chairman*, W. D. Richardson; *Vice-chairman*, C. A. Browne; *Secretary*, T. J. Bryan.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE degree of doctor of laws has been conferred on five members of the British Educa-