

on the discovery of the right man for the office of director, and doubtless he will have a good deal to say about working details.

THE INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC

THE Bureau of the Census has supplied the following data concerning deaths from influenza and pneumonia covering twelve weeks ending September 14 to November 30, inclusive.

| Cities in Order Affected | First Week | Maximum Week | Week when Death Rate (all Causes) Reached Normal Level | Deaths from Influenza and Pneumonia (all Forms) | |
|--------------------------|------------|--------------|--|---|-----------------------------|
| | | | | Number | Number for 1,000 Population |
| Boston | Sept. 14 | 4th | 10th | 4,510 | 5.7 |
| Worcester | " 21 | " | 9th | 919 | 5.3 |
| Lowell | " 21 | " | 8th | 534 | 4.9 |
| Fall River | " 21 | " | " | 704 ¹ | 5.5 |
| Providence | " 21 | 5th | 10th | 1,086 | 4.1 |
| New York | " 21 | 6th | " | 21,314 | 4.1 |
| Cambridge | " 28 | 2d | 7th | 504 | 4.5 |
| Syracuse | " 28 | 4th | 9th | 915 ¹ | 5.7 |
| New Haven | " 28 | 5th | " | 783 ¹ | 5.1 |
| Washington | " 28 | 4th | 8th | 2,082 | 5.2 |
| Jersey City | " 28 | " | " | " | " |
| Pittsburgh | " 28 | 7th | " | 3,710 | 6.3 |
| Philadelphia . . . | " 28 | 4th | 9th | 13,025 | 7.4 |
| Indianapolis . . . | " 28 | " | " | 584 ¹ | 2.0 |
| Chicago | " 28 | 5th | " | 9,133 | 3.5 |
| Buffalo | " 28 | " | 9th | 2,293 | 4.8 |
| Baltimore | " 28 | 4th | " | 3,812 | 6.4 |
| Milwaukee | " 28 | 5th | " | 821 | 1.8 |
| Minneapolis . . . | " 28 | " | " | 671 ¹ | 1.7 |
| Birmingham . . . | " 28 | " | 7th | 622 | 3.1 |
| Newark | " 28 | " | " | 1,873 | 4.4 |
| Richmond | Oct. 5 | 3d | " | 667 | 4.2 |
| Kansas City . . . | " 5 | 5th | " | 1,085 | 3.5 |
| New Orleans . . . | " 5 | 4th | " | 2,134 | 5.6 |
| Denver | " 5 | " | " | 962 | " |
| Louisville | " 5 | " | 7th | 735 | 3.0 |
| Columbus | " 5 | " | " | 526 | 2.3 |
| Cincinnati | " 5 | " | " | 1,280 | 3.1 |
| Nashville | " 5 | 3d | " | 620 | 5.2 |
| Atlanta | " 5 | 4th | 5th | " | " |
| Los Angeles | " 5 | 5th | " | 1,877 | 3.3 |
| Cleveland | " 5 | " | " | 2,686 | 3.3 |
| Albany | " 5 | 4th | 8th | 592 | 5.3 |
| Memphis | " 5 | 3d | 7th | 534 ¹ | 3.4 |
| Omaha | " 12 | 2d | " | 527 ¹ | 2.9 |
| St. Paul | " 12 | 6th | " | 624 ¹ | 2.4 |
| Seattle | " 12 | 3d | " | 703 | " |
| Dayton | " 12 | " | 6th | 533 | 4.1 |
| Rochester | " 12 | " | " | 808 | 3.1 |
| St. Louis | " 12 | 4th | " | 1,714 | 2.2 |
| Oakland | " 12 | " | " | 702 ¹ | 3.3 |
| Grand Rapids . . . | " 12 | 6th | " | 128 ¹ | 0.9 |
| Spokane | " 12 | 3d | " | 233 ¹ | " |
| Portland | " 12 | 4th | " | 676 | " |
| San Francisco . . . | " 12 | " | " | 2,247 | 4.7 |
| Toledo | " 12 | 3d | " | 523 | 2.0 |

¹ Deaths for eleven weeks only.

THE RETURN OF CHEMISTS TO THE INDUSTRIES

WHEN the United States entered the European war one of the first problems to be considered was the effect of the draft upon our essential industries. It was early appreciated that in order to maintain our full efficiency it would be necessary to conserve as far as possible our skilled workers and men with technical training. In order that we might not suffer from the depletion of our ranks, steps were taken to secure deferred classification, and later on provision was made to furlough back to industry. This arrangement made it possible for chemical industries to maintain their efficiency and has contributed largely to the effectiveness of our forces in the field.

Up to the time of cessation of hostilities the Industrial Relations Branch of the Chemical Warfare Service had recommended for deferred classification 641 chemists and skilled workers. These recommendations were favorably considered, as a rule, by the local boards, and as a result about 90 per cent. of the men so recommended were put in a deferred class.

Many cases, however, were not brought to the attention of this branch until the men had actually been called into service. Such chemists or skilled workers as were essential to industry were then furloughed in order that the production of war materials might not be retarded. Through this method 156 men had been returned to industry, and at the time of the signing of the armistice 120 more cases were pending in the Adjutant General's office.

As hostilities cease we naturally must again turn to peace-time conditions and look forward to the future development of chemical industry in America. The problem now before the Industrial Relations Branch of the Chemical Warfare Service is to assist chemists in service to secure positions where their training and experience can be used to the best interests of the government. This enormous readjustment is rendered possible through the information gathered by Dr. Charles L. Parsons, secretary of the American Chemical Society, and through the questionnaires sent out by Major