subsequent detonation of the shell. Also, the Navy gas mask adopted was of a form such as would make the gun's crew load and handle the guns with the least possible interference, and so this form was considerably different from that adopted by the Armies of the world.

The Navy trusts that the post-war needs will find the chemists and officers of the service much closer together than they were in the pre-war days, and believes that such a condition will take place because we have had the pleasure of meeting so many of your organization and know better to whom to apply to obtain the necessary cooperation and advice.

BUREAU OF ORDNANCE,
NAVY DEPARTMENT

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE WELSH UNIVERSITY AND THE WELSH NATIONAL MEDICAL SCHOOL

IN regard to the plans for the Welsh National Medical School we learn from *The British Medical Journal* that the university deprecates the proposal of the Royal Commission to make the medical school a separate constituent college of the university, thus severing the connection which has hitherto existed between Cardiff College and the school. It is considered that anything which will tend still further to separate the medical students from the general body of students, or to discourage intercourse between the professors in the medical and other faculties, is undesirable from the educational point of view, and it is stated that both the bodies concerned—the university college and the hospital—are opposed to the change. At the same time the university is fully alive to the importance of organizing the medical school as an institution of national and not merely of local concern. It is believed that both these objects can be attained through the revised scheme in which ultimate control is reserved to the university. It is proposed that the college council shall be the chief governing body of the school of medicine, but that it shall delegate to the board of medicine wide administrative and executive functions and powers. Specific proposals have now been put forward with regard to the remuneration of professors; it is pointed out that the fall in the value of money and the increased scale of salaries now being adopted in England make it clear that unless the University of Wales is to be in a position of permanent inferiority to the modern English universities it will be necessary to fix a scale substantially higher than the minimum figures proposed by the Royal Commission. It is suggested that the figures should be—for professorial chairs £800 to £1,000, for independent lectureships £500, for lectureships £400, and for assistant lectureships £250. Certain special proposals are made with regard to chairs and lectureships in the faculty of medicine. The adoption of the "unit" system is advocated. The medical unit would consist of two full-time teachers, a professor with a salary of £1,500, an assistant professor with £250, and part-time lectures on toxicology and forensic medicine, and on dermatology, £100 each. The surgical unit, it is suggested, should have three full-time teachers, a professor with a salary of £1,500, two assistant professors (one for practical surgery) £1,000; part-time lecturers on orthopedics, genito-urinary surgery, ophthalmology, and diseases of the ear, nose and throat, each to receive £100. The unit of gynecology and obstetrics would have one full-time professor (£1,500) and one full-time assistant professor (£500). There would be also an electrical department with a medical superintendent (£500), and clinics for psychiatry and neurology, pediatrics, dermatology, and dentistry, which it is estimated will together cost £5,000 a year. The salaries of the professors and assistant professors have been fixed on the assumption that having regard to their professorial duties the incumbents would be very largely restricted in private practise.

CONFERENCE ON THE ORGANIZATION OF RESEARCH IN ENGLAND

PART of the scheme devised by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research for the administration of the funds placed at its disposal by Parliament was the formation of associations among groups of manufac-

turers, and a conference was held on July 29 of representatives of the associations already formed for the purpose of discussing some of the many problems which have presented themselves in connection with their work.

In the absence of Mr. H. A. L. Fisher, president of the Board of Education, the chair was taken by Sir William McCormick, chairman of the Advisory Council. Sir Frank Heath, secretary of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, was also present, besides some sixty to seventy representatives. A great diversity of subjects was thus represented, though some, especially the great chemical industries, were conspicuously unrepresented.

The meeting was informed that nine research associations were in operation, eight more have been approved and are only waiting the license of the board of trade, while twelve others are under discussion. So much having been accomplished in the three years which have elapsed since the idea originated, it may be assumed that a general approval has been given to the scheme by the industrial world, but the initial difficulties are far from being overcome as yet.

Among the subjects discussed at the conference the first was the formation of a records bureau, and the second the difficult and important one of the conditions of employment of research workers engaged by the associations. Other questions related to cooperation among the associations, and the amount and method of assessment of the subscriptions to be paid by the associated firms in addition to the subsidy from departmental funds.

The formation of a bureau of information and for the recording of results secured by research is a matter of the utmost importance. In the first place it is proposed that its task should consist in storing up the results of work done by the associations, but even this will be found very expensive and not free from difficulties, owing to the views prevalent in some quarters as to secrecy. The associations require access to information of every kind, and apparently the representatives assembled have something to learn with regard to the existing sources of much of the information they require, for throughout the discussion no reference was made to the magnificent journals, containing both original papers and abstracts, issued by some of the British and American engineering and chemical societies. It seems to be recognized that a large number of reference libraries will have to be established, especially in the neighborhood of great centers of industry; but it ought also to be understood that every association will require a library stored with works of reference, and especially journals cognisant of the subjects it represents; indeed, every works which has a laboratory for research must be similarly provided. All this represents a large outlay of money, the amount of which can scarcely be calculated as yet.

THE AMERICAN CERAMIC SOCIETY

The program for "Ceramic Day" at the Fifth National Exposition of Chemical Industries, Chicago, September 24, was as follows:

Morning Session

Professor Charles F. Binns: "The American Ceramic Society, past, present and future."

Dr. Alexander Silverman: "Buy on analysis."

Dr. E. W. Washburn: "Some aspects of scientific research in relation to the glass industry."

Mr. Ross C. Purdy: "Superior refractories."

Mr. Frederick H. Rhead: "The making of pottery."

Afternoon Session

Mr. Robert J. Montgomery: "General types of optical glass."

Mr. Douglas F. Stevens: "Brick and tile."

Mr. A. V. Bleininger: "The application of scientific methods to ceramic research."

Dr. J. C. Hostetter: "The manufacture of optical glass."

Mr. R. R. Danielson: "Enameling technology."

Mr. A. Malinovszky: "Fused silimanite products."

Evening Session

A full evening's program of motion pictures, including:

"Making of cut glass."

"Glass bulb and tubing manufacture for Mazda lamps."

"Manufacture of architectural terra cotta."