

tion of nitrogen by the barium process. The fact remains, however, that we are still in the constructional or experimental stage, while Germany far outdistances all competitors in actual production.

FORESTRY LEGISLATION

THE Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture, reports that no less than thirty-three states have now provided for some sort of forestry activities and twenty-five of these share in the federal cooperative forest protection fund, allotted to states maintaining an effective fire detection and suppression system.

Two others have applied recently for such assistance. Public backing of the movement to preserve the remaining forests from destruction by fire, and to put idle forest lands to work growing trees, is becoming widespread, and the effects of the popular demand for action is shown clearly in the state laws passed this year.

Pennsylvania, under the direction of Gifford Pinchot, the new commissioner of forestry, leads all states in forest activities. The biennial appropriation passed by the legislature and approved by the governor carried \$1,870,000, an increase of \$863,300 over the appropriation of 1919; \$1,000,000 of the total is for fire protection. The legislature also passed an act empowering the federal government to acquire lands on the watersheds of navigable streams within the state, by purchase or condemnation, and to control and regulate such reserves.

The Minnesota legislature was more generous with the state forestry board than ever before. A total of \$275,500 for general forestry work was appropriated for the next two years, of which \$125,000 a year is for fire protection. The last named sum was augmented by an additional allotment of \$44,000 from the state board of relief. For the equipment of a flying field \$45,000 was voted. This provision was to meet the offer of the federal government to furnish the service of twelve planes if the necessary hangars and flying fields were provided. While the primary purpose of this agreement is to supply aerial mail communication, the

planes will be able also to render effective service in discovering forest fires.

In California, where there has been much favorable sentiment toward forestry for many years, the legislature voted a substantial increase in appropriation for the state board of forestry, for the biennial period beginning July 1. For the prevention and suppression of fire \$75,000 was appropriated; for general administration, \$27,000; for a study of watershed areas, \$10,000, and to establish and maintain state forest nurseries, \$35,000. The legislature also voted \$300,000 for the purchase of redwood timber land for park purposes along the state highway in Mendocino and Humboldt counties, the area to be administered by the state board of forestry.

THE HARVARD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

PLANS for the organization of a School of Public Health in Harvard University, with the aid of an initial gift of \$1,785,000 by the Rockefeller Foundation, are announced by the university and the officers of the Foundation. The announcement says:

An excellent general course for the training of public health officers as well as special courses in preventive medicine, in tropical medicine and industrial hygiene have already been developed at Harvard. The work has been hampered, however, by lack of adequate funds and by uneven growth.

The new school will provide opportunities for research, will unify existing courses and will offer new or extended teaching facilities in public health administration, vital statistics, immunology, bacteriology, medical zoology, physiological hygiene and communicable diseases.

For the housing of the school the university hopes to secure an existing building of very suitable character immediately adjacent to the Medical School. Funds for the purchase and equipment of the building will be drawn from the gift of the Rockefeller Foundation.

The cost of maintenance and development of the school will be met from endowment funds in part set aside by the university and in part contributed by the Foundation. The Foundation's immediate appropriations to the project will aggregate \$1,785,000. The arrangement also provides for further gifts, if the growth of the school seems to demand it, to any amount which shall not exceed \$500,000.