WORK OF THE EMERGENCY CONSERVATION CORPS

ROBERT FECHNER, director of the Emergency Conservation Corps, has announced that approximately 300,000 men are now in the field. With enrolment of the men completed, the Conservation Corps is now at work under the direction of trained forestry officials.

The forest work programs—drawn up by Major Robert Y. Stuart, chief forester of the United States Forest Service; Horace M. Albright, of the National Park Service; John Collier, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and by the state foresters—call for a record-breaking amount of work designed to conserve timbered resources, improve the forests and increase the value of the annual crop of commercial forest products.

Among the types of work which will be done are the following:

(1) Forest protection work which will include the construction of trails through the forests over which fire-fighting units can operate speedily in event fires break out in the future, the building of fire breaks, construction of lookout towers, observatories, fire guard cabins, shelter for fire protection equipment, laying of field telephone wires and the construction of emergency fire control landing fields.

(2) Forest improvement work to include tree planting over burned-out and cut-over areas, the thinning out of undesirable trees, the construction of truck and horse trails and the eradication of insects and diseases which destroy large numbers of trees annually.

(3) Flood control and soil erosion work where such works will serve to protect or improve existing forest areas.

The work is planned to include:

(1) Construction of between 40,000 and 50,000 miles of truck and horse trails in the forests, a task equal to building a trail long enough to girdle the globe almost twice.

(2) Construction of 12,000 miles of telephone lines.

(3) Building of a minimum of 4,000 miles of fire breaks.

(4) Improvement of at least 5,000,000 acres through thinning, clearing and other means.

(5) Conducting campaigns against tree diseases and insects on 10,000,000 acres.

(6) Fighting rodents like prairie dogs on 6,000,000 acres.

(7) Removal of fire hazards from hundreds of thousands of acres of land.

(8) Planting of trees on a minimum of 300,000 acres.

The men will be utilized intensively on the 175 million acres of national forests, national parks and Indian reservations. Slightly less than half of them are working on the 400-odd million acres of state and privately owned timbered lands. Of the 1,430 camps, about 800 are on federal and 600 on state owned lands.

REDUCED FUNDS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CURTAILMENTS of congressional appropriations by the Budget Bureau in the interest of economy have reduced the money available for the U. S. Department of Agriculture to $60,000,000, or 37 per cent. less than in the 1932 fiscal year.

According to Science Service, this will force the separation from the payroll of about a thousand persons, 700 to 800 of whom will be dismissed and about 350 of whom will be furloughed. The changes in personnel are being made slowly, however, and figures are not yet available as to how many of those separated belong to the clerical and how many to the technical and scientific departments.

It is estimated that the amount allocated for scientific research will be reduced about 35 per cent. below the amount available in 1932. About $17,000,000 was appropriated for this purpose in the fiscal year 1932. This was cut, under the 1934 appropriations, to about $13,000,000, and this sum, in turn, has been reduced by the Budget Bureau to about $11,000,000, or $6,000,000 less than in 1932.

Reductions of the ordinary activities of the department account for a reduction of nearly $11,000,000 in the amount appropriated by the Congress for 1934 and nearly $26,000,000 in the amount appropriated for 1932. The expenditures for ordinary activities in 1934 will be $42,794,618.

Reductions of 25 per cent. in payments to the states for experiment stations and extension service are included in the funds withheld, although it was understood that this provision might not be put into effect. The payments to states for experiment stations, extension work, cooperative forest fire prevention and national forest special funds will be limited to $13,555,620 compared with the $17,868,359 appropriated by the Congress.

The total appropriations for the Department of Agriculture, not including funds for roads or for expenditures under the agricultural adjustment act, will be $60,189,538, compared with the $75,344,107 in the 1934 appropriation bill and the $93,561,590 which was appropriated in 1932.

OBITUARY

CLEMENT DEXTER CHILD, head of the department of physics at Colgate University since 1904, died on July 15, at the age of sixty-five years.

DR. F. H. BAETJER, professor of clinical roentgenology in the Johns Hopkins University until his re-

tirement a year ago, died on July 17 at the age of fifty-eight years. Dr. Baetjer had suffered serious injuries in exposure to x-rays.

DR. JANET PERKINS died on July 7 at the age of eighty years. She was born in Indiana, but spent much of her life in Germany, receiving her degree from Heidelberg. Dr. Perkins was the author of numerous papers on systematic botany and contributed the Monimiaceae and Styracaceae to Engler's "Pflanzenreich."

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. OLIVER E. BUCKLEY, assistant director of research of the Bell Telephone Laboratories since 1925, has been appointed director to fill the vacancy left by the recent death of Dr. Harold DeForest Arnold. Dr. Buckley had previously been instructor at Cornell University and research physicist with the Western Electric Company.

DR. GEORGE OTIS SMITH, from 1907 to 1930 director of the U. S. Geological Survey, has resigned as chairman of the Federal Power Commission.

DR. HAVEN EMERSON, professor of public health practise at the DeLamar Institute of Public Health, College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University, has been elected to corresponding membership by the Academy of Athens.

THE gold medal of honor of the Institute of Radio Engineers, New York City, was recently awarded to Sir Ambrose Fleming, inventor of the thermionic valve, for the part he has played in introducing physical and engineering principles into the art of radio.

THE first award of the Bowdoin College prize in memory of the late William J. Curtis, which is to be presented every five years, has been made to Dr. Fred H. Albee, of New York City, in recognition of his achievements in reconstruction surgery and bone graft apparatus. The committee of award consisted of Chief Justice William R. Pattangall, of the Maine Supreme Court; Ernest M. Hopkins, president of Dartmouth College, and Harry A. Garfield, president of Williams College. The prize is given to one "who shall have made during the period the most distinctive contribution in any field of human endeavor."

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association reports that Dr. Oliver T. Osborne, emeritus clinical professor of therapeutics in the Yale University School of Medicine, has been awarded the Chompret Prize, established by the International Academy of Stomatology and the American Stomatological Association, for his "contributions to the science of stomatology and for his untiring labors to bring dentistry and medicine to a plane of better understanding and appreciation of their common problems for the good of mankind." The prize was established this year in honor of J. Chompret, professor of stomatology in the School of Stomatology, Paris, to commemorate the first decade of continuous labor of American dentists in scientific stomatology.

PROFESSOR D. F. FRASER-HARRIS, for an essay entitled "Antiseptics before Lister," has been awarded by the University of Glasgow the triennial prize in the history of medicine.

Nature reports that the Howard Prize of the Royal Meteorological Society has been awarded to Cadet J. S. Robertson, of H.M.S. Training Ship *Conway*, for the best essay on "Visibility and Fog."

THE doctorate of laws of the University of Rochester was conferred at commencement on Loyd A. Jones, head of the division of physics of the Eastman Kodak Research Laboratories, and on W. B. Rayton, head of optical design of the Bausch and Lomb Optical Company.

DR. ELMER S. SAVAGE, professor of animal husbandry at Cornell University, has received the degree of doctor of science from the University of New Hampshire.

DR. CHEVALIER JACKSON, professor of bronchoscopy and esophagoscopy, Temple University School of Medicine, Philadelphia, has accepted an invitation to teach three months each year at Louisiana State University School of Medicine, New Orleans.

DR. J. M. WHITTAKER, lecturer in mathematics at the University of Cambridge, has been appointed to the chair of pure mathematics in the University of Liverpool. The chair of applied mathematics has been filled by the appointment of Dr. L. Rosenhead, fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge.

DR. ADOLF PASCHER, professor of botany at the German University at Prague, has been appointed director of the Botanical Garden and Institute.

PASSED ASSISTANT SURGEON WILLIAM H. SEBRELL, JR., of the Public Health Service, has been assigned in charge of the office of nutrition investigations under the direction of the chief of the division of scientific research.

To fill the vacancies caused by the death of Sir Percy Sargent and the retirement in rotation of Lord Moynihan, Sir John Lynn-Thomas, Mr. A. H. Burgess and Mr. V. Warren Low the following fellows of the