

DR. BENJAMIN S. WARREN, from 1922 to 1934 medical director of the U. S. Public Health Service, died on May 20, at the age of sixty-three years.

JOSEPH THOMAS CUNNINGHAM, marine zoologist and

biologist of the London Hospital Medical College, has died at the age of seventy-six years.

PROFESSOR GAETANO FICHERA, who was the director of the Milan Institute for Cancer Research, died on May 21. He was fifty-five years of age.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE MEDICAL CURRICULUM IN GREAT BRITAIN

THERE was published on May 17 the report of the conference of representatives, nominated by the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge and London, the Royal College of Physicians of London, the Royal College of Surgeons of England and the Society of Apothecaries of London, on the medical curriculum.

The members of the conference were: Lord Dawson of Penn (chairman), Professor Sir E. Farquhar Buzzard (chairman of the Executive Committee), Professor G. E. Gask (vice-chairman of the Executive Committee), Professor Sir Walter Langdon Brown, Dr. A. E. Clark-Kennedy, Sir Raymond H. P. Crawford, Professor Winifred Cullis, Professor H. R. Dean, Professor C. A. Lovatt Evans, E. L. Pearce Gould, Dr. A. M. H. Gray, Professor W. W. Jameson, T. Bramley Layton, Dr. M. H. MacKeith, Professor Sir Ewen Maclean, W. H. Ogilvie, Sir Holburt Waring and Professor W. Wright, with G. W. Rossetti as secretary.

The following are among the recommendations of the conference:

That the minimum length of the medical curriculum be not extended beyond the present period of five years.

Medical studies proper—*i.e.*, anatomy and physiology—should not be begun before the age of 18.

In view of the very considerable difficulties experienced by schools in teaching candidates for the requirements of the different syllabuses of the several examinations for 1st M.B. or basic sciences, the syllabuses in chemistry, physics and biology in the examinations for 1st M.B. or basic sciences of the different licensing bodies should be brought more into line one with another.

To ensure, during the period subsequent to passing matriculation, the continuance at schools of the general education of intending medical students, the licensing bodies should consider the possibility of allowing and encouraging exemption from the 1st M.B. examination by means of a higher school certificate examination conducted by any recognized examining body, in which, in addition to the three principal scientific subjects, a subsidiary non-scientific subject be taken.

During the first two years (six terms) of medical studies the work of the student should be arranged by a board of teachers representing anatomy, physiology, chemistry, biochemistry, pharmacology and pathology.

During the first four terms of medical studies the stu-

dent should continue the study of chemistry, carry out work in the dissecting room and department of anatomy, and, in the second term, begin the study of elementary physiology and biochemistry.

During the fifth and sixth terms of medical studies, while continuing the study of anatomy and physiology, the student should be introduced to the principles of general pathology, immunology and bacteriology by a pathologist.

The teaching of organic, physical and colloidal chemistry should be determined by conference between the teachers of physiology, biochemistry and chemistry, due weight being given to the opinions of the teachers of physiology on the special needs of students of medicine.

The teacher of anatomy should be given access to hospital material for teaching applied anatomy, with or without the assistance of a clinician attached to his department.

During the second year of medical studies the teacher of physiology, being provided, if necessary, for this purpose with a clinical assistant, should give demonstrations in applied physiology and familiarize the student with the use of the stethoscope, the ophthalmoscope, the laryngoscope and the otoscope.

During the second year of medical studies the teaching of pharmacology, which shall include toxicology, should be arranged in close cooperation with the teachers of physiology.

During the second year of medical studies the student should attend a short course of lectures in elementary medical psychology.

THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT TO THE COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

At the meeting of the council of the American Chemical Society in New York City, on April 24, Professor Roger Adams gave the following summary of the work of the society to the one hundred and sixty-six councilors present at the meeting.

Since the beginning of 1934, the American Chemical Society has operated under a new plan of membership fees. In brief, individuals joining the society pay \$9 for the privilege of membership and for the *News Edition*. A fixed additional sum is charged for each of the journals and members may select on this basis one or more of those desired. This procedure was introduced to accommodate those men who must consider their expenses carefully, and those who for one reason or another do not require all the society's pub-