

T. M. Matson and Theodore Forbes. They have been prominently identified with the development of the growing profession of traffic engineering, both in research and training activities and, likewise, in professional engineering work.

### EXPANSION OF THE TUFTS MEDICAL SCHOOL

ACCORDING to an account given in *The Tufts College Alumni Bulletin*, approval was given at a recent meeting of the Board of Trustees to the proposal of the Executive Council of the Medical School Alumni Association to raise a fund of \$2,000,000 for building an entirely new medical school as a physical part of the New England Medical Center on Bennet Street, downtown Boston. The new school will replace the antiquated buildings on Huntington Avenue.

This fund is to be raised by appeal among the alumni, their friends and among the general public. Part of the money will be utilized for building the new school; the balance will go into endowment for improving the teaching facilities and for a much-needed surgical teaching unit.

For Tufts Medical School, this move means greatly added prestige. In 1929 the school associated itself with the Boston Dispensary and the Boston Floating Hospital in forming the New England Medical Center. To this group is now being added the Joseph H. Pratt Diagnostic Hospital.

Plans for the improvement of the Medical School were formulated by the late President Cousens and the Medical Alumni Association more than a year ago. These plans at first contemplated the raising of \$250,000 only among the alumni. Discussion led to the decision that the needs of the school were much greater and a public campaign was decided upon.

The *Bulletin* points out that:

The close control of medical education by the American Medical Association has forced medical schools all over the country to elevate their standards both with regard to physical equipment and to the teacher-student ratio. The school has always had a Class "A" rating, but the pressure to meet requirements of the American Medical Association has been growing. The main building on Huntington Avenue has been used since the beginning of the century and it is entirely inadequate for present-day needs. To increase the teacher-student ratio means the creation of new professorships and the only solution is sufficient endowment to meet this need. At the Medical Center, the teaching of surgery has been handicapped because of the lack of a surgical unit.

Plans for the medical school, therefore, finally crystallized into a campaign to raise \$2,000,000. Of this sum, \$150,000 will go to a surgical unit, from \$750,000 to \$850,000 for a new school building at the Medical Center, and \$1,000,000 to set up an endowment sufficient to meet present teaching needs.

### THE AMERICAN STANDARDS ASSOCIATION

REPRESENTATIVES of ten national associations met on April 6 at the offices of the American Standards Association to set up standard methods and procedures for the guidance of testing laboratories and other public endorsement agencies.

Need for this action arises from the increasing use by producers and distributors of "approvals" "certifications" and "listings" to satisfy the consumer demand for more factual information concerning quality of goods and performance of equipment offered for sale. These "certifications" are of great potential value to the buying public if backed by adequate tests of responsible agencies; but, according to the Association of Consulting Chemists and Chemical Engineers who proposed that the American Standards Association undertake this work, such tests are not always carried out. It is pointed out that "Irresponsible endorsements that claim significance which they do not possess are bringing the whole system into disrepute. Some vendors cater to the consumer desire for facts by asserting half-truths or by implications which have no real significance. In other cases there is no evidence of the existence of standards, and if they do exist they are not available to the public. Some vendors use 'certified' as a trade designation."

The proposal of the testing engineers and chemists, many of whom are heads of laboratories, has been heartily endorsed by the National Bureau of Standards, the National Association of Purchasing Agents, the American Home Economics Association, the Consumers' Division of the U. S. Department of Labor and the American Society for Testing Materials.

The plan is to set up standard practices covering fundamentals which should underlie approval procedures—such standards to be developed cooperatively by consumers, producers, distributors and advertisers, many of whom were represented at the meeting. Among the points suggested for inclusion are a clear statement of the auspices under which any plan of approval is operated; adequate independent sampling and testing of the product to determine its conformity with definite, published standards; systematic reexamination to insure continuing conformity, records of tests to be publicly available, and compliance with these principles to be indicated on labels or tags.

At the meeting, Thomas A. Wright, of the Association of Consulting Chemists and Chemical Engineers, was appointed chairman and B. L. Oser, secretary.

The following organizations were represented at the meeting:

American Society for Testing Materials  
American Home Economics Association  
American Council of Commercial Laboratories  
National Association of Purchasing Agents