

is hoped that the existing school lunch program will be so extended as to see to it that every child, regardless of economic status, will receive in the schools one thoroughly good meal every day. Apart from the immediate effects of this program, as reflected in the improved health of our children, there is one long term result of immeasurable value—the formation of sound dietary habits.

Let us be well aware of the fact that for children and adults alike education and propaganda are alone insufficient to effect any appreciable improvement in nutritional practices in measurable time. There is much that must be done that can and should be done speedily.

There is reason to believe that the flour-enrichment program of Great Britain has not progressed far, if at all. In any event, it would be unfortunate if the program failed to develop beyond that for which legislative provision has thus far been made. To supplement the present scheme of fortification it is desirable that the consumption of whole-wheat flour and bread be encouraged by reduction of price through a government subsidy. Of necessity the milling of the grain would have to be done in Great Britain because of the failure of whole-wheat flour to keep well when stored. However, the 12 per cent. of residue from fully extracted wheat is a valuable foodstuff for domestic animals and could be put to a profitable use.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE OFFICE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

THE President of the United States issued on June 30 an executive order establishing the Office of Scientific Research and Development in the Executive Office of the President and defining its functions and duties. Dr. Vannevar Bush, president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, now chairman of the National Defense Research Committee, has been appointed director. The first part of the President's order reads as follows:

By virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the statutes of the United States, and in order to define further functions and duties of the Office for Emergency Management with respect to the unlimited national emergency as declared by the President on May 27, 1941, for the purpose of assuring adequate provision for research on scientific and medical problems relating to the national defense, it is hereby ordered:

1. There shall be within the Office for Emergency Management of the Executive Office of the President the Office of Scientific Research and Development, at the head of which shall be a director appointed by the President. The director shall discharge and perform his responsibilities and duties under the direction and supervision of the President. The director shall receive compensation at such rate as the President shall determine and, in addition, shall be entitled to actual and necessary transportation, subsistence and other expenses incidental to the performance of his duties.

2. Subject to such policies, regulations and directions as the President may from time to time prescribe, and with such advice and assistance as may be necessary from the other departments and agencies of the Federal Government, the Office of Scientific Research and Development shall:

a. Advise the President with regard to the status of scientific and medical research relating to the na-

tional defense and the measures necessary to assure continued and increasing progress in this field.

- b. Serve as the center for the mobilization of the scientific personnel and resources of the Nation in order to assure maximum utilization of such personnel and resources in developing and applying the results of scientific research to defense purposes.
- c. Coordinate, aid, and, where desirable, supplement the experimental and other scientific and medical research activities relating to national defense carried on by the Departments of War and Navy and other departments and agencies of the Federal Government.
- d. Develop broad and coordinated plans for the conduct of scientific research in the defense program, in collaboration with representatives of the War and Navy Departments; review existing scientific research programs formulated by the Departments of War and Navy and other agencies of the Government, and advise them with respect to the relationship of their proposed activities to the total research program.
- e. Initiate and support scientific research on the mechanisms and devices of warfare with the objective of creating, developing and improving instrumentalities, methods and materials required for national defense.
- f. Initiate and support scientific research on medical problems affecting the national defense.
- g. Initiate and support such scientific and medical research as may be requested by the government of any country whose defense the President deems vital to the defense of the United States under the terms of the Act of March 11, 1941, entitled "An Act to Promote the Defense of the United States"; and serve as the central liaison office for the conduct of such scientific and medical research for such countries.
- h. Perform such other duties relating to scientific and medical research and development as the President may from time to time assign or delegate to it.