

THE ASSOCIATED HOSPITAL SERVICE OF NEW YORK

ACCORDING to an announcement made by Dr. S. S. Goldwater, president of Associated Hospital Service of New York, the hospitals and the medical profession of Greater New York and of twelve adjacent counties have been invited to participate in a new non-profit prepayment plan which will provide hospital ward service and all medical services needed for satisfactory clinical treatment.

Affiliated with the service is Community Medical Care, Inc., a new non-profit medical indemnity corporation which received a permit from the State Department of Insurance on June 4. It is under the presidency of Dr. I. Ogden Woodruff, and will be managed by a board of directors consisting of sixteen physicians and eight laymen. The physicians include six past-presidents of County Medical Societies in Greater New York.

The promulgation of the new plan follows more than a year of careful study on the part of the board of directors of the service with the aid of the medical profession, hospital executives, representatives of labor and industry, insurance actuaries and social workers. It has been approved in principle by a special committee of the Coordinating Council of the five County Medical Societies of Greater New York. Details have been submitted to and approved by the State Insurance Department and by the Department of Social Welfare, as required by law.

As soon as a sufficient number of hospitals and physicians signify their willingness to participate, the plan will be offered to groups of workers in industry, many of whom have been asking for a prepayment plan within their means which offers the combination of hospital service and professional care in illnesses requiring hospital admission.

The new plan differs from and supplements the present 3-cents-a-day plan in important respects. The 3-cents-a-day plan, which now has more than 1,250,000 subscribers in the metropolitan area and which during the past six years has paid out benefits amounting to more than twenty-five million dollars, provides hospital service only, in semi-private accommodations. The three-cents-a-day plan was devised for persons of moderate means, who after thus providing for their hospital expenses through a common fund, undertake individually to pay their physicians. Subscribers to the 3-cents-a-day plan pay a subscription rate of \$9.60 per annum on a group payroll deduction basis for individual coverage, or \$24 per annum for family coverage. Under the new plan, which is known as the community ward plan, comparable subscription rates for hospital service will be only \$6 per annum for individuals, and \$13.50 for families. To cover medical fees, which are excluded

under the 3-cents-a-day plan, and which are a distinctive feature of the new combined plan, subscribers to the community ward plan will pay to Community Medical Care, Inc., subscription rates identical with those paid to Associated Hospital Service for hospital care. Thus the rates for combined coverage, including hospital service and all necessary medical care during the subscriber's hospital stay as provided for in the contract, will be \$12 per annum for individuals, and \$27 per annum for families, regardless of the number of dependent children under eighteen years of age.

Because of the reduced or "community" rates which participating hospitals are expected to offer under the community ward plan, subscribers to the plan will be limited to single persons with incomes of \$1,200 or less; subscriptions providing maternity care as well as general medical and surgical service will be available to husbands and wives with combined incomes of \$1,680, and to families including children with incomes of \$2,100 or less. Under the new low-cost plan, hospital service and medical care will not be offered separately but only under a combined contract. Administrative costs will be kept at a minimum. Expenses will be shared equally by the two organizations.

According to Dr. Goldwater, the community ward plan involves no necessary change in existing relations between patient and physician, or between physician and hospital. Subject to hospital rules, subscribers will have free choice among participating hospitals.

The Associated Hospital Service offers its new low-cost plan at the conclusion of its sixth year of successful operation, and at a time when it is in a stronger position than ever before. On May 31 the organization reported to the State Insurance Department total admitted assets of \$6,166,753 and a surplus of \$2,472,247, in addition to a special reserve fund of \$1,000,000 for epidemics and other contingencies.

THE SCHOOL OF NUTRITION OF CORNELL UNIVERSITY

THE establishment of a School of Nutrition at Cornell University, offering a two-year curriculum for students who have completed three years of preparatory work at the college level, has been announced by President Edmund Ezra Day. Within the scope of the new unit will be all phases of animal and human nutrition. The new school will cut across college lines and will bring to bear on problems of nutrition facilities now distributed in various departments of five colleges of the university, and in the U. S. Nutrition Laboratory, recently established at Cornell.

According to Dr. Day, "the recent National Nutrition Conference at Washington brought out the fact

that not only is there need for training additional specialists in the science of nutrition and its practical applications, but also for consultation services for professional workers concerned with problems involving nutrition. The School of Nutrition at Cornell will provide such consultation services, as well as scientific training for nutrition specialists."

Dr. Leonard A. Maynard, who has been professor of animal nutrition at Cornell University for more than twenty years and who is director of the Federal Laboratory of Nutrition at Ithaca, has been appointed director of the new unit.

In addition to training specialists in the field of nutrition, instruction will be offered in related fields, where some understanding of the problems of nutrition is essential. Agricultural agents, students preparing for institutional management and chemical engineers and others in training to serve the food industries will be given instruction in various phases of handling and utilizing foodstuffs. Courses will be given for conservationists, veterinarians, physiologists, toxicologists and workers in other divisions of animal sciences.

Students who plan to enter the field will take a course covering five years of college training, at the end of which they will receive the degree of master of science in nutrition. During the first three years the curriculum will include required courses in biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics and animal husbandry. There will follow two years of intensive training in the school of nutrition proper, with special emphasis on animal and human nutrition, bacteriology, general pathology, biochemistry, biophysics and food chemistry. Problems of food supply and food distribution will likewise be studied. Graduates of the school who demonstrate unusual competence will have opportunity to continue their work in a program leading to the degree of doctor of philosophy.

Members of the staff of the new school will be drawn from those divisions of the university most directly concerned with nutrition problems. Among them will be Dr. J. B. Sumner, professor of biochemistry; Dr. P. F. Sharp, professor of dairy industry; Dr. L. C. Norris, professor of poultry nutrition; Dr. F. B. Morrison, professor of animal husbandry; Dr. H. H. Dukes, professor of veterinary physiology; Dr. Hazel Hauck, professor of home economics; and Dr. Clive M. McCay, professor of animal nutrition, who has long been associated with Dr. Maynard in studies on the relationship between diet and longevity. Also associated with the work will be Dr. Eugene F. DuBois, professor of physiology at the Cornell Medical College, and other members of the staff at the Medical Center in New York City. In certain of its aspects, the program of the school will be closely affiliated with the School of Chemical Engineering,

which is directed by Dr. F. H. Rhodes, who was recently appointed to the Herbert Fisk Johnson professorship of industrial engineering.

THE McDONALD OBSERVATORY

AN agreement has been made by which Indiana University will join with the University of Texas and the University of Chicago in the use of the McDonald Observatory on Mt. Locke in the Davis Mountains of southwestern Texas. Under the terms of the new agreement it has been arranged that Indiana astronomers will use the facilities of the McDonald Observatory for fifteen nights each year. Indiana University will be given full right to the photographic plates of their observations and also the rights of discussion and publication of the results of their investigations.

The McDonald Observatory was made possible through an \$800,000 bequest to the University of Texas by the late William J. McDonald, banker of Paris, Tex., and since its opening it has been manned largely by personnel from the Yerkes Observatory under Dr. Otto Struve. The 82-inch mirror is exceeded only by the 100-inch reflector of Mt. Wilson, Calif. Both mirrors will be surpassed at some future date by the 200-inch telescope of the California Institute of Technology, which is now under construction.

The power of the McDonald Telescope is such that it will take photographs of stars of the order of four hundred million light years distant, and a million times fainter than the faintest star which can be seen by the naked eye. The observatory is situated where climatic conditions are favorable for observations more than three hundred nights a year. The work in astrophysics, which has been carried on at the Yerkes Observatory, has been continued at the McDonald Observatory. Indiana astronomers, under the direction of Professor Frank K. Edmondson, will use the observatory for the study of stellar motions.

THE AFFILIATION OF RUSH MEDICAL COLLEGE WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

AN agreement has been entered into for Rush Medical College and Clinic, Chicago, to turn over their facilities to the Presbyterian Hospital, and it in turn to become affiliated with the University of Illinois. The Presbyterian Hospital is close to the Chicago campus of the University of Illinois in the West Side Medical Center.

The affiliation adds members of the faculty, the training and research facilities of one of the city's largest and best-equipped general hospitals and a leading dispensary to the Colleges of Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmacy of the university and the research and educational hospitals and institutes. The latter were transferred, by agreement between the Department of Public Welfare and the university, on