

Dr. John S. Coulter, associate professor of physical therapy, Northwestern University Medical School, has been appointed Regional Medical Officer of the Sixth Civilian Defense Region, with headquarters in Chicago.

Dr. Dudley A. Reekie, assistant director of health and chief medical officer of the Tennessee Valley Authority, has been appointed Regional Medical Officer of the First Civilian Defense Region, with headquarters in Boston. He succeeds Dr. Allan M. Butler, Boston, who resigned to become head of the department of pediatrics at the Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston. Dr. Reekie entered on active duty on January 31.

Dr. Leonard A. Scheele, passed assistant surgeon, U. S. Public Health Service, Bethesda, Md., was recently assigned to the Washington staff of the Medical Division, Office of Civilian Defense. Dr. Scheele graduated from Wayne University College of Medicine, Detroit, 1933, and was commissioned in the public health service following the completion of his internship. Dr. Scheele was assigned in 1938 to the National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, as consultant on cancer control. There he conducted studies of the epidemiology of cancer, efficacy of cancer therapy, radiation protection and cost of cancer therapy.

Dr. Harold Marks, passed assistant surgeon (Reserve), U. S. Public Health Service, recently on the staff of the National Institute of Health, Bethesda, joined the Medical Division staff in January. Before being assigned to the Office of Civilian Defense, he was stationed at the National Institute of Health and was engaged in making surveys of medical care in defense communities.

William H. Carey, Jr., recently associated with the Norman Boosey Manufacturing Company, Detroit, has been appointed Regional Sanitary Engineer for the Sixth and Seventh Civilian Defense Regions, plus Indiana and Kentucky, with headquarters in Chicago, effective February 4. He has been commissioned Sanitary Engineer (Reserve) in the U. S. Public Health Service.

APPOINTMENT OF CAPTAIN N. H. HECK

REAR ADMIRAL L. O. COLBERT, director of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, announces that Captain N. H. Heck, formerly chief of the Division of Geo-

magnetism and Seismology of the Survey, has been appointed assistant to the director on scientific and technical matters. Captain Heck is well known in scientific circles as one of the world's leading authorities on earthquakes and the earth's magnetic forces.

Captain Heck entered the survey in 1904. He served at sea for a number of years and at various times commanded the survey ships *Hydrographer*, *Matchless* and *Explorer*. He had a large share in the development of the wire drag, which has been responsible for the discovery and charting, or ultimate elimination, of countless menaces to navigation. He also contributed materially to the early development of the Radio Acoustic Ranging method of hydrographic surveying.

His interest turning to research in magnetism he became, in 1921, chief of the Division of Terrestrial Magnetism. When the study of earthquakes was transferred from the Weather Bureau to the Coast and Geodetic Survey in 1926, his title was changed to chief of the Division of Terrestrial Magnetism and Seismology, in which capacity he served until he assumed his new work.

He is author of numerous books and articles on scientific and technical subjects. Among his works are: "Earthquakes," published in 1936; "Compensation of the Magnetic Compass," 1923; "Velocity of Sound in Sea Water," 1924; and "Earthquake History of the United States," 1928 and 1938. He has been the recipient of several honorary degrees and is a member of a number of scientific and engineering societies. From 1935 to 1938 he was chairman of the American Geophysical Union, and from 1936 to 1939 president of the Seismological Association of the International Geodetic and Geophysical Union. He is a past president of the Philosophical Society of Washington and of the District of Columbia Chapter of Sigma Xi.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE William H. Nichols Medal of the New York Section of the American Chemical Society was presented to Dr. Duncan A. MacInnes, of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, for "distinguished contributions to electrochemistry" at a dinner of the section in New York City on the evening of February 27. The presentation was made by Professor William C. MacTavish, head of the department of chemistry of New York University and chairman of the jury of award, which cited Dr. MacInnes for "outstanding investigations on electrolytes and the development of techniques which have immeasurably enriched both the theory and practice of modern electrochemistry." In his acceptance speech, Dr. MacInnes discussed "Gal-

vanic Cells as Instruments of Research." Professor Herbert S. Harned, of Yale University, spoke on "The Work of the Medalist," and Professor George Seatchard, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, on "Dr. MacInnes—The Man." Professor Ralph H. Müller, of New York University, chairman of the section, presided.

THE 1941 Lamme Medal of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers has been awarded to Forrest E. Ricketts, vice-president of the Consolidated Gas, Electric Light and Power Company, Baltimore, "for his contribution to the high reliability of power-supply systems, especially in the design of apparatus for selective relaying and circuit reclosure." The medal