

eutheneo (Demosthenes, Aristotle, Herodotus) and *euthenia* (Herodotus).

CARL E. SEASHORE

NORWEGIAN MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF GÖTEBORG

It may interest readers of *SCIENCE* to hear that a petition subscribed by practically all members of the R. Society of Göteborg resident in the city has been presented to the Swedish minister for foreign affairs asking him to intervene in favor of three Norwegian members of the R. Society who have been illegally imprisoned and subjected to severe treatment by the present authorities in Norway. The following is a translation from the Swedish original, which carried the signatures of fifty-two members:

To his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs:

Three foreign members of the Royal Society of Science and Letters of Göteborg, *viz.*, the principal of the University of Oslo, Didrik Arup Seip, and the professors of the same university, Anton Wilhelm Brögger and Francis Bull, have already for a considerable time been deprived of their liberty. They are known to us as eminent scientists and scholars and are citizens beyond reproach. As far as we know none of them has been convicted of any crime against the laws of their country by a legal court of justice or even been accused of any criminal offence.

To all of us their fate has given great pain. The fact that Professor Seip, for reasons unknown to us, has been subjected to a treatment of inhuman cruelty has further increased our anxiety on their behalf.

We subscribed members of the Royal Society resident in Göteborg herewith apply to your Excellency with the request that everything in your power shall be done in order to set our fellow members at liberty and enable them to resume their studies and research.

It is greatly to be feared that any action taken by the Swedish government according to the request will be void of effect under present circumstances.

HANS PETTERSTON,

Member of the R. Society of Göteborg

MARCH 2, 1942

THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA—A CORRECTION

A MISLEADING note as to the situation in the Medical School of the University of Georgia appeared in *SCIENCE* of March 20. This note implies that several of our faculty members have been dismissed for advocating coeducation of negro and white students. None of our faculty has been dismissed and the coeducation question has not been raised on our campus. The regents have given us every possible financial aid and encouragement in living up to the standards set by the American Medical Association. We have done so, and will continue to do so.

Action was taken by the council without investigating the merit of the school or of its graduates. It was apparently based upon the action of a legally constituted board of regents in dismissing administrative officers in schools in other parts of the state. Fortunately, this action does not affect the diplomas of students now in school or those entering before September first. Our dean was told by Dr. Wilbur with the full membership of the council present that no reflection was being cast upon the teaching and research of the school. Unfortunately, this was not made public.

W. F. HAMILTON

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

QUOTATIONS

RUSSIAN INTERCHANGE

WE look forward when the war is over to enjoying happy relations with the Russians and to that vigorous exchange of scientific and artistic thought which is the best part of comradeship, whether between men or nations. In the meantime we are anxious to contribute in every way we can to the strength of their arms and their defences; and for the medical profession the course is plain: we would like to put at their disposal whatever information may be useful, and to find whatever equipment they need.

Something has already been done in both directions by the Anglo-Soviet Medical Committee; the appeal made by Sir Alfred Webb-Johnson, president of the committee, for surgical instruments has met with a good response which he acknowledges on another

page; instruments worth about £3000 have reached him and less than 10 per cent. of these required repair. Those in perfect condition were greased and forwarded at once, while those needing overhaul or replating are being put quickly in order. A subcommittee dealing with medical supplies have been advising Mme. Maisky, wife of the Soviet Ambassador, on the purchase of surgical instruments, x-ray sets, autoclaves and other equipment, and during the past three months seventy large cases of instruments, some weighing a quarter of a ton, have been dispatched. In addition, Sir Philip Manson-Bahr and Mr. G. F. Home are compiling a book for the committee, probably to be called "Reviews of British War Medicine," consisting of articles by recognized authorities. This is being translated into Russian by doctors who have volunteered for the task and will be printed as quickly

as possible and sent to Russia through the Soviet Embassy. If this volume is a success it is hoped to make it the first of a series. References and illustrations will be few, the aim being to produce a compact, informative and inexpensive book before the expected spring offensive begins. The object is not to try to teach the Russians anything (for they probably know far more about war medicine by this time than we do) but to say, in effect, "This is the way we do it. What do you think of it? And will you tell us about your own findings?" Thus the series may lead to an exchange of medical opinion which the profession in this country would greatly welcome. There are many things we should like to learn. For example, what standards do the Russians use in selection of troops? What is their age-limit for air pilots? Are they better provided than we are with rehabilitation and vocational training centres? Dr. S. Girgolov, in *Soviet War News*, the bulletin issued by the Soviet Embassy, says that for frostbite they use rapid heating of the affected part and physiotherapy, including ultrashort waves, and remove damaged tissues early, but he gives no details. He also says they are using closed plaster more and more, and are employing plasma for transfusion on a large scale. Have they had much gas gangrene? Have they used local sulphonamides widely and has their experience been the same as ours? How do they send their blood to the front line? How are they treating burns? Are they using local anesthesia for operations? Mr. Anthony Eden has already undertaken to try to arrange an exchange of information about typhus.

Many more questions spring to the mind on which shared experience would doubtless throw light; but apart from the written word what we should all like is a visit from a deputation of our Russian colleagues and the chance to exchange views and opinions and to establish a closer understanding which will help to found a lasting friendship.—*The Lancet*.

PAPER RESTRICTIONS AND THE BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL

THE course of the war since April, 1940, when Scandinavian sources of material for paper-making were cut off, has imposed progressive limitation upon supplies of paper, and this *Journal* in common with others has shrunk to small dimensions when judged by the standard of 1939. The shrinkage in number of pages was brought about gradually and some readers may have been scarcely aware of it until last week's very slender issue came into their hands. The reason for this attenuation is as simple as it is disagreeable. Our paper ration has suffered another and a much more drastic cut and we must eke out the supply which the Paper Control now allows us by printing fewer pages each week, and in future issues by diminishing still further the size of type used in various parts of the *Journal* and *Supplement*. Since this is a professional organ of information and opinion, owned by the members and not run for profit, the advertisement pages have to fare far worse under the axe than the editorial pages. The British Medical Association, unlike the proprietors of all newspapers and of most periodicals, can not compensate for dwindling paper supplies by materially cutting down circulation, because it is bound to send a copy of its *Journal* every week to each of the 40,000 members. Every effort will be made to economize space and to secure an adequate amount of paper, but readers and contributors must help us to make the best of a bad situation and be prepared for disappointments. The generous space given to correspondence will have to be curtailed, which means fewer and shorter letters. Every one in these days is putting up with things he never thought to endure, and we look confidently to members of the British Medical Association to exercise forbearance. As for conciseness, it has become a major virtue in all who put pen to paper.—*The British Medical Journal*.

SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

ACTIVITIES OF THE AMERICAN NATIONS

Statistical Activities of the American Nations. Edited by ELIZABETH PHELPS. Washington, D. C.: Inter American Statistical Institute. 842 + xxxi pp. 1941. \$2.00.

THIS is a compendium of the statistical activities relating to the collection, processing and publication of social and economic data in the Western Hemisphere, prepared under the direction of the temporary organizing committee of the Inter American Statistical Institute. The major portion of the book consists of a series of twenty-two descriptive papers—one for each of the American republics—contributed by outstanding administrators of statistical services in the

respective countries. Each of these papers gives, for the most part, a historical account of the development of statistical services in the nation concerned (in the language of that country) together with a description of the present status of statistical activities in that country. There is a considerable amount of variation in the degree of completeness of the various papers. In order to provide the reader with a ready means of making comparisons between the various countries, the editor has prepared a summary in English and also in Spanish of facts regarding the scope of the statistical work carried on in each country. A uniform set of subheadings is used for the summaries: Education Facilities; Statistical Library Facilities;