

but 0.2 above the pre-war five years' average. The infantile mortality rate was 58 per 1,000 births. It is 6 below that for the second quarter of 1942 and

10 below the five years' average. It is the lowest rate recorded for the second quarter of any year. The maternal mortality was 3.5 per 1,000 live births.

DISCUSSION

GEOLOGISTS IN WAR SERVICE

THERE has been some recent discussion in *SCIENCE* concerning the utilization of geologists in the war effort. Very few geologists are satisfied that the full value of the profession or of its personnel is appreciated. However, there has heretofore been an almost complete lack of information on which to base an intelligent discussion. Information on the prewar and wartime occupations of Harvard-trained geologists has been gathered. Data on 318 men are available, as shown in Table I.

TABLE I

Degrees	Total number	Teaching Per cent.	Non-commercial and government research Per cent.	Commercial research Per cent.	Changed position as result of war Per cent.
Ph.D. and S.D.	115	50	14	32	28
M.A. } M.S. } M.E. }	79	32	18	46	32
Graduate School— no degree ..	73*	31	37	31	44*
A.B. and B.S.	51†	12	63	25	35
Totals	318	34	33	33	33

* Of this total 22 were students in 1941–42 and are omitted in calculating percentages, except in the final column.

† The present occupations of 93 other men with A.B. and B.S. degrees are known. These men have gone into occupations other than geology or into the Army, and are not here listed.

Of the total of 318, a third each are employed as teachers, in non-commercial and governmental research and in commercial research. Only two of the teachers are in preparatory work; the rest are in college teaching. The per cent. of Ph.D.'s in this category is the highest, as men planning to teach usually attempt to doctorate. Many of those who have A.B. and A.M. degrees from Harvard hold doctors' degrees from other institutions.

The impact of the war has been severe, and there has been a shift of employment involving 33 per cent. of the total. The shift has been from commercial research into governmental research and administration or into the Army and Navy. Teachers have shifted mostly into commercial research, but most of the teachers have not shifted employment. They have, however, changed courses and adapted their teaching to new demands. Many have spent much time in temporary work for governmental bureaus or in commercial work or strategic minerals. It has been im-

possible to make estimates of these informal, confidential and part-time efforts, although their total value is large.

The proportion in the Army and Navy is fairly high: 10 doctors; 11 masters; 17 men with graduate work, and 5 bachelors who are recognized geologists or 13.5 per cent. of the total. Students who left college with bachelors' degrees to go directly into the Armed Forces are numerous but not considered. Some of these men intend to be geologists and have adequate training to be useful field assistants.

Of the group in uniform, 17 are mature men who are in specialized positions of research and administration which appear to be suitable to their talents. Men under 40, however, are mostly performing ordinary military or naval duties, for which they are presumably qualified, but which seem below their capacities. Every geologist believes that the Army and Navy need geologists as advisers on construction and on tactics and strategy. If these men were used as geologists, the situation would be more satisfactory. There are also others qualified and willing who could be recruited for duties in military geology.

These data cover the wartime changes in the occupation of a small group only, but a group presumably representative of the geologists who have graduated from other universities. The willingness of geologists to leave their ordinary occupations and assume new duties is obvious—a third have done so. That others are willing may be assumed. It appears, however, that a considerable fraction already in uniform are not being used to the best advantage. Many hesitate to change from one civilian position to another, but would shift to a uniform if they were to be used in a geologic staff.

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APPARENT TIME ACCELERATION WITH AGE

I AM interested in the article on "Apparent Time Acceleration with Age of the Individual," by F. W. Nitardy, appearing in *SCIENCE* for July 30. The theory set forth is "that elapsed time as measured by the recollection of an individual seemed long or short according to what relationship it had to the individual's total time experience." What is meant of course is a limited period of time in relation to the total time experience.

While the abstract lapse of time is a constant fac-