

ulty whose research problems are considered worthy of support, as well as to secure for such professors occasional leaves of absence from teaching.

Another aspect of the council's work will be concerned with placing the research facilities of the university at the disposal of the State of New Jersey, its citizens and its industries to a greater extent than before. Contacts will be made with state agencies, industry, business and labor for the purpose of developing reciprocal arrangements providing mutual advantages to each.

The membership of the council includes:

Dr. William H. Cole, professor of physiology and chairman of the Bureau of Biological Research in the College of Arts and Sciences, who has been named director of the Research Council; Dr. Firman E. Bear, professor of agricultural chemistry, chairman of the soils department of the College of Agriculture and editor of *Soil Science*, who will serve as chairman of the council; Donald F. Cameron, associate professor of English in the College of Arts and Sciences and editor of the Rutgers University Press; Wallace S. Moreland, assistant to the president; James L. Potter, associate professor of electrical engineering in the College of Engineering; Dr. Walter C. Russell, professor of agricultural biochemistry and executive secretary of the Graduate Faculty; Dr. George P. Schmidt, professor of history in the New Jersey College for Women, and Dr. Peter van der Meulen, professor of physical chemistry and acting dean of the School of Chemistry.

There is also being organized an Advisory Board consisting of representatives from the university trustees, the State Board of Regents, Rutgers alumni, industry and the general public. The function of this board will be to survey annually the research facilities and accomplishments of the university and to make recommendations to the trustees concerning expansion and strengthening of the research program throughout the university.

Dr. Carroll Lane Fenton has been appointed editorial consultant to the director for the preparation of reports on the research facilities and on the work done to specific organizations as well as to the general public.

The Research Council is an outgrowth of the activities of a committee appointed by President Clothier in the summer of 1943 to study all matters related to research in the university. This committee studied the organization, purposes and procedures of similar agencies in other universities. It concluded that the interests of all concerned would best be served by organizing a council to cooperate with the deans and directors of the several schools and colleges in encouraging and strengthening research throughout the university.

In the fall of 1943 certain funds were placed at the disposal of the original committee and were used to support ten selected research projects submitted by various members of the staff. Some of the projects are closely concerned with the war effort, the details of which can not now be divulged, except to say that they have to do with a search for anti-malarial drugs, improved methods for analyzing cinchona bark and with acoustical investigation. Other projects are concerned with the physiological value of different proteins and their constituent amino acids in nutrition and in the prevention and treatment of disease; the structure of tomato seedlings and its bearing on successful transplantation; the preparation of material for the study and teaching of Latin-American Spanish; a geological survey of the State of New Jersey and the search for an improved method of determining the saponification number of fats.

For the next academic year, 1944-45, thirty-four applications for research funds were received from thirty different persons representing nineteen different departments of the university. The funds requested were two and one-half times the amount available for allocation. Fifteen grants were awarded for 1944-45, including a renewal of those mentioned above. Four of the awards carry leaves of absence from teaching for various parts of the academic year to be devoted exclusively to research.

LEGISLATION ON THE SCOPE OF THE U. S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

AN Associated Press dispatch in *The New York Times* states that on July 3 President Roosevelt approved legislation broadening the scope of the U. S. Public Health Service and in a statement commended the department for "its excellent record in protecting the health of the nation."

The act authorizes Federal grants for research by non-government institutions, larger appropriations to aid state public health work and the establishment of a national tuberculosis program. It provides commissions for public health nurses. The text of the statement is as follows:

The Public Health Service Act is an important step toward the goal of better national health. A constituent of the Federal Security Agency since 1939, the U. S. Public Health Service is one of the oldest Federal agencies—and one in which the people have great confidence because of its excellent record in protecting the health of the nation.

The act signed to-day gives authority to make grants-in-aid for research to public or private institutions for investigations in any field related to the public health. It authorizes increased appropriations for grants to the states for general public health work.

It strengthens the commissioned corps of the public health service for the enormous tasks of the war and the peace to come. Authority is granted to commission the nurses of the public health service, just as the nurses of the Army and Navy are commissioned.

It provides for the establishment of a national tuberculosis program in the public health service. Since adequate public health facilities must be organized on a nation-wide scale, it is proper that the Federal Government should exercise responsibility of leadership and assistance to the states.

In establishing a national program of war and post-war prevention, we shall be making as sound an investment as any government can make; the dividends are payable in human life and health.

THE NEW CIVIL PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION IN THE OFFICE OF THE SURGEON GENERAL

THE program of the Civil Public Health Division of the Preventive Medicine Service which was established on January 1 has been strengthened by the assignment of Dr. Warren F. Draper, Deputy Surgeon General, U. S. Public Health Service, as chief of the Public Health Branch of the Civil Affairs Section at the Supreme Headquarters of the Allied Expeditionary Force. He will serve the U. S. Army as a Brigadier General.

The overall purpose of this new division in the Office of the Surgeon General is to develop plans pertaining to public health policy and practice in occupied and liberated territories. It is directed by Colonel Thomas B. Turner, who recently returned from an extensive tour of the European and Mediterranean theaters of operations where he made a study of public health conditions. Prior to his present assignment, Colonel Turner was director of the Venereal Disease Control Division. He is on leave to the U. S. Army from the School of Hygiene and Public Health of the Johns Hopkins University, where he is professor of bacteriology. For some time Colonel Turner was a staff

member of the International Health Division of the Rockefeller Foundation.

The program already under way will integrate the public health activities of the Army overseas with that of other agencies in this field, including the U. S. Typhus Commission, the U. S. Navy, the U. S. Public Health Service, the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration and other national and international health organizations.

The Allied Armies will be called upon to assume a measure of responsibility for civilian public health in many areas, entailing supervision of or liaison with local public health officials and the provision of certain necessary medical supplies.

To accomplish this objective it will be necessary to commission from civil life a number of officers experienced in public health administration and in specialties such as epidemiology, nutrition and maternal and child hygiene.

A limited number of men who have had both general and special training in one or another of these special fields are still being sought for such assignments in the Far Eastern Area. They should not be over 50 years of age, and be physically qualified to perform at least limited service duties overseas. Previous military experience and knowledge of foreign languages is desirable but not essential. The men selected will undergo a course of training at the School of Military Government at Charlottesville, Va., and thereafter at the Civil Affairs Training School at Yale University. Instruction will include the theory and general principles of military government and liaison, and the language and background of certain Far Eastern areas. In addition provision will be made for training men in special phases of public health and certain medical specialties.

Further information may be obtained by addressing The Surgeon General, U. S. Army, Washington 25, D. C., Attention: Civil Public Health Division.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. WILLIAM HAMMOND WRIGHT, director emeritus and astronomer emeritus of the Lick Observatory, was awarded the honorary degree of doctor of laws by the University of California at its commencement on June 25.

THE honorary doctorate of science was conferred at the commencement of Harvard University on June 29 on Dr. Emory Leon Chaffee, Rumford professor of physics and director of the Cruft Memorial Laboratory of the university.

At a recent meeting of the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, Professor A. V. Hill, bio-

logical secretary of the Royal Society, was awarded the Joykissen Mookerjee Gold Medal for 1944.

THE second James Ewing Award was presented in May to Dr. Edward R. Charlton, of Bronxville, N. Y., chairman of the cancer committee of Westchester County, as a token of recognition and commendation for "distinguished service to the people and to the medical profession of Westchester County contributing to the understanding and control of malignant disease."

PROFESSOR GEORGE P. BURNS, who has retired after serving for thirty-four years as head of the depart-