

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-