

hundred and four local sections located in all parts of the country.

CIVILIAN MEDICAL CONSULTANTS OF THE ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

THE War Department announced on June 5 the appointment of nineteen civilian physicians as advisers to the Army Medical Department on problems of internal medicine. The advice of these consultants will supplement that afforded by the special consultants selected from officers in the Medical Corps of the Army and will be carried on through the chief consultant of the department of medicine, Brigadier General Hugh J. Morgan. The consultants appointed, in eight special fields of internal medicine, are:

Dr. Robert Cooke, assistant professor of clinical medicine, Cornell University (allergy).

Dr. Francis Rackemann, physician, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston (allergy).

Dr. Robert Levy, professor of clinical medicine, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University (cardiovascular disease).

Dr. Paul White, chief of Cardiac Clinics and Laboratory, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston (cardiovascular diseases).

Dr. Chester Keefer, professor of medicine, Boston University School of Medicine (chemotherapy).

Dr. Chester Jones, clinical professor of medicine, Harvard Medical School (gastro-enterology).

Dr. Walter L. Palmer, professor of medicine, School of Medicine, of the University of Chicago (gastro-enterology).

Dr. Colin MacLeod, professor of bacteriology, College of Medicine of New York University (infectious diseases).

Dr. Charles E. Smith, professor of public health and preventive medicine, School of Medicine, San Francisco, Stanford University (infectious diseases).

Dr. Carol B. Thomas, associate in medicine, the Johns Hopkins University (infectious diseases).

Dr. Barry Wood, professor of medicine, Washington University, St. Louis (infectious diseases).

Dr. J. Gardner Hopkins, professor of dermatology, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University (skin diseases).

Dr. John Stokes, director, Institute for Control of Syphilis, University of Pennsylvania (skin diseases).

Dr. Mark F. Boyd, director of the Station for Malaria Research, Tallahassee, Fla. (tropical diseases).

Dr. Harold W. Brown, professor of parasitology, Columbia University (tropical diseases).

Dr. James A. Shannon, assistant professor of medicine, New York University College of Medicine (tropical diseases).

Dr. Robert B. Watson, principal malariologist, Tennessee Valley Authority, Chattanooga (tropical diseases).

Dr. J. Burns Amberson, professor of medicine, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University (tuberculosis).

Dr. James J. Warning, professor of medicine, School of Medicine at Denver of the University of Colorado (tuberculosis).

THE WORK OF DR. GEORGE HARRISON SHULL

IN an address to the House of Representatives on May 15, the Honorable George A. Dondero called attention to the work of Dr. George Harrison Shull, professor emeritus of botany and genetics of Princeton University, in which he spoke in part as follows:

Dr. George Harrison Shull has contributed much toward the production of food and has made very important contributions to the Nation and perhaps the world in his creation and propagation of hybrid corn. He may be one of the unsung heroes of the Nation. He deserves a high place in the history of food production.

In recognizing hybrid vigor, as it was displayed to him in his corn-breeding cultures following crosses between his highly inbred related lines, and in devising a practical method or agricultural technique for obtaining and utilizing hybrid vigor to the utmost through the use of hybridized seed corn, he demonstrated with striking clarity how research in pure science may lead to results of tremendous practical value.

The procedure which he devised for the practical production of hybrid corn and which he presented in 1909 before the American Breeders Association is in all essentials the basis of methods now used in producing seed of crossed corn for planting upward of 50,000,000 acres of field corn and sweet corn annually in the United States, including almost all of the Iowa corn acreage. The superiority and dependability of hybrid corn is demonstrated most markedly under adverse growing conditions. The trends in corn growing indicate that hybrid corn may soon replace ordinary corn almost completely for planting our annual acreage of upward of 90,000,000 acres. We have reason to believe that general use of hybridized corn seed may enable a somewhat reduced national acreage to produce an annual crop upward of 1,000,000,000 bushels in excess of the best national yields we enjoyed before we had hybrid corn.

Dr. Shull has not profited a penny through devising the agricultural technique which is basic to hybrid corn production. He derives much comfort from the fact that his hybrid corn research has come to be recognized as a classic example of work in pure science which has led directly to economic results of tremendous importance and which has proved of incalculable value in these war years and which may exert an even more benign influence in the coming years of world recovery and reconstruction.

THE RETIREMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

THE retirement of Dr. C. G. Abbot as secretary of the Smithsonian Institution has already been announced in *SCIENCE*. His letter of resignation, dated June 20, addressed to the Board of Regents, reads:

Having occupied the post of secretary of the Smithsonian Institution since February, 1928, and of acting