

somewhere in the southern hemisphere. The equipment will include a 120-in. reflector, two 80-in. reflectors, two 16-in. double astrographs, one 50-in. and one 30-in. Schmidt telescope, solar towers and a coronagraph. The training of the astronomical staff has continued during the war; some sixty or seventy astronomers and astrophysicists will be required for staffing the new institution. Information has been received that the international latitude station maintained by the U.S.S.R. at Kitab, Uzbekistan, has continued to function regularly throughout the war.

### A TECTONIC MAP OF THE UNITED STATES

DR. CHESTER R. LONGWELL, Henry Barnard Davis professor of geology at Yale University, has announced the completion, after nine years of work, of a tectonic map of the United States depicting its complete geologic structure. Dr. Longwell is chairman of a committee of sixteen members, a division of the National Research Council and an affiliate of the National Academy of Sciences. Other members of the committee are Professors C. H. Behre, W. H. Bucher and G. Marshall Kay, of the department of geology of Columbia University; Drs. Eugene Callaghan, D. F. Hewett, P. B. King (committee vice-chairman), G. R. Mansfield, Watson Monroe, J. T. Pardee and G. W. Stose, all of the U. S. Geological Survey; Dr. E. B. Knopf, New Haven; A. I. Levorsen, consulting geologist, Tulsa, Okla.; Professor T. S. Lovering, University of Michigan; Professor W. T. Thom, Princeton University; Professor A. C. Waters, Stanford University; Dr. E. D. Wilson, Arizona Bureau of Mines, Tucson; Professor A. O. Woodford, Pomona College.

The map, in dimensions of four by six and a half feet and with a scale of forty miles to the inch, is the first of its kind to be published. It will be of practical value in many fields, particularly as an aid to petroleum geologists in giving them an overall picture of the major structural features of bedrock, with a consequent direct relationship to the occurrence of petroleum; to research geologists, who are working on the causes of large scale movements of the earth's crust; to instructors in geology teaching in college classrooms throughout the country.

The committee began its work in 1935. Funds were first provided by the National Research Council. Additional funds were granted by the American Association of Petroleum Geologists and by the Geological Society of America.

Members of the committee, who were chosen from previously designated sections of the country, worked from 1935 through 1940 in cooperation with geologists in the various districts, gathering information and checking it for accuracy with local representatives before forwarding it to the United States Geological Survey in Washington, D. C., where all information

was first compiled before being transferred to the map. On the completion of this work in 1940, a preliminary edition of the map was prepared for limited distribution and criticism; and upon the basis of the resulting suggestions, work was resumed on the final and revised edition.

Earlier plans called for the completion of the map in 1941, but owing to the war and the subsequent increase in war work on the part of the geologists engaged in the study, the final revision took nearly four years.

Although the map has been completed, copies of it will not be available for another month. Approximately five thousand copies will be printed and will be for sale at cost by the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, Tulsa, Okla.

### THE REORGANIZATION OF THE OFFICE OF THE SURGEON GENERAL

THE post of Assistant Surgeon General, to be filled by Brigadier General Raymond W. Bliss, has been established in a partial reorganization of the Surgeon General's Office. General Bliss will hold the new post in addition to his duties as chief of the Operations Service.

The Assistant Surgeon General will act for the Surgeon General in coordinating the work of the Operations Service, the various professional divisions, the Military Personnel Division and the activities of other divisions and services that affect operations.

Other changes include the dissolving of the Administrative Service; the Fiscal, Legal and Office Service Divisions of that service will report directly to the executive officer as previously; the Professional Service is dissolved and four Professional Consultant Divisions have been established as follows: Medical, Surgical, Neuropsychiatric and Reconditioning. The Nursing Division also is dissolved and all personnel and related aspects of the Army Nurse Corps will be the responsibility of the Army Nurse Branch of the Military Personnel Divisions.

A new Professional Administrative Service has been set up with Colonel Arden Freer as chief and Colonel Esmond R. Long as deputy chief. It will include the following divisions: Physical Standards, Nursing, Medical Statistics and the Professional Inquiries and Women's Health and Welfare Units. Colonel Florence A. Blanchfield has been appointed director of the Nursing Division.

Other appointments have been announced as follows:

Major William Harold Dunn has been appointed neuropsychiatric consultant for the Fifth Service Command Headquarters, Columbus, Ohio.

Colonel James Earle Ash, of the Army Medical Museum, has been appointed director of the Army Institute

of Pathology. His title was formerly that of curator. Lieutenant Colonel Balduin Lucké, formerly professor of pathology at the University of Pennsylvania, who was acting curator during the absence of Colonel Ash, has been made deputy director. Colonel Ash has returned to the United States after an inspection tour in North Africa of the activities of the Museum and Medical Arts Services which is collecting material for research and training in tropical diseases. The museum is undertaking to supply all medical schools in the United States and Canada with material.

Lieutenant Colonel Thomas G. Ward, bacteriologist, formerly of the Johns Hopkins University, has been appointed director of the Epidemiological Division of the Preventive Medicine Service. He succeeds Lieutenant

Colonel Arthur P. Long, who has been assigned to overseas duty.

Lieutenant Colonel Joseph M. Hayman, formerly professor of clinical medicine and therapeutics at Western Reserve University, has been placed in charge of a newly established special treatment center for malaria and other tropical diseases at the Moore General Hospital, Swannanoa, N. C. Lieutenant Colonel Francis R. Dieuaide, formerly professor of clinical medicine at the Harvard Medical School, chief of the Tropical Disease Branch of the Medicine Division, will administer the scientific phases of its activities.

Major Frank A. Mantz, of Cynwyd, Pennsylvania, has been appointed chief of the Malaria Control Section in the Preventive Medicine Service.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. JAMES BRYANT CONANT, president of Harvard University, was presented with the Priestley Medal at the 108th meeting of the American Chemical Society, which opened in New York City on September 11.

BRIGADIER GENERAL JAMES S. SIMMONS, U. S. Army; Rear Admiral Charles S. Stephenson, U. S. Navy, and Dr. Rolla E. Dyer, Assistant Surgeon General, U. S. Public Health Service, were recently awarded medals for service on the United States of America Typhus Commission for the control of typhus among United States armed forces serving overseas.

THE Government of Ecuador has conferred the decoration *Al Merito* on Dr. J. C. Geiger, director of public health of San Francisco City and County. The citation reads "for distinguished service, for noteworthy and indomitable leadership in the advancement of public health in the Americas."

THE Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences has awarded the annual John Jeffries Prize for contributions to aeronautical medical research to Sir Harold E. Whittingham, director general of the medical services of the Royal Air Force. Members of the committee making the award are the director of research of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics and the presidents of the National Aeronautic Association, the Air Transport Association, the Aero Medical Association, the Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences and the Aeronautical Archives.

THE Melchett Medal of the British Institute of Fuel has been awarded to Dr. J. G. King, director of the Gas Research Board, in recognition of "the outstanding work he has done in recent years during his long connection with the Fuel Research Station at Greenwich."

DR. HENRY S. CONARD, since 1906 professor of botany at Grinnell College, Iowa, retired on September

15 with the title of emeritus. At a dinner of the faculty in April he was given a portfolio containing a hundred and seventy letters from colleagues, associates and pupils. At the commencement in May an honorary doctorate of science was conferred on him. Dr. Conard will continue his work on the distribution, ecology and variation of mosses in Iowa.

THE honorary degree of doctor of engineering was conferred at the one hundred and twentieth commencement exercises of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute upon Allen B. Du Mont, president of the Allen B. Du Mont Laboratories, Inc., of Passaic, N. J. The citation reads in part, "a pioneer in the development and use of the cathode-ray tube, which to-day is the heart of the weapon, radar. Through his efforts the cathode-ray tube was ready for production on a quantity basis when it was needed in the war. He has also improved the science and art of television."

IN recognition of his more than forty years of service to the College of Medicine of the University of Nebraska, Dr. C. W. M. Poynter, professor of anatomy and dean of the college, was honored on the occasion of his sixty-ninth birthday with a banquet sponsored by the alumni association of the college. More than three hundred former students, associates and other friends and admirers of Dr. Poynter attended. Many unable to attend sent congratulatory messages. The toastmaster was Colonel E. V. Allen, M.C., U. S. Army. Other speakers were United States Senator Hugh Butler; Dr. A. W. Adson, professor of neurologic surgery, the Mayo Foundation; Professor C. B. Schulz, director of the Museum of the University of Nebraska; Dr. E. E. McEwen, dean of the School of Medicine, University of Iowa, and president of the Association of American Medical Colleges; Dr. J. J. Keegan, chairman of the department of surgery of the College of Medicine of the University of Nebraska, and Dr. C. S. Boucher, chancellor of the University