DICAL POSTS IN DEFENSE PROGRAM

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

Dr. Oliver Hazard Perry Pepper, professor of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania since 1934 and chief of the medical staff of the University Hospital, is chairman of the Committee on Medicine of the National Research Council and a national leader in the development of medical resources for defense.

The Committee on Medicine is one of nine main committees of the Division of Medical Sciences of the National Research Council. Functioning under Dr. Pepper's committee are eight subcommittees, dealing with cardiovascular diseases, clinical investigation, diagnosis and therapeutics, nutrition, tuberculosis, infectious diseases, tropical diseases, and venereal diseases. There are a total of forty-two committees and subcommittees within the division.

The first of these special committees were established in the spring of 1940 at the request of the surgeons general of the Army and the Navy, to serve in an advisory capacity for the medical corps of these branches of the nation's armed forces, and most of the committees now functioning had been organized by the beginning of 1941. The development of this program was inspired by the realization, following the outbreak of the war in Europe, that there are many new problems of military medicine on which information was urgently needed in the interest of this country's defense.

The work of Dr. Pepper's committee and its subcommittees includes the investigation of research projects in the field of medicine which may be submitted by various institutions and the making of recommendations to the chairman of the Division of Medical Sciences, Dr. Lewis H. Weed, who in turn reports on projects seeming to merit encouragement or assistance to the United States Office of Scientific Research and Development.

In addition, Dr. Pepper is serving as a member of the War Department's seven-man Board for the Investigation of Epidemic Diseases in the Army, of which Dr. Francis G. Blake is president.

This board, which was appointed by the Secretary of War, supervises and coordinates the activities of nine commissions, each dealing specifically with one type of disease. Members of these commissions are called upon to go to the scene of any outbreak of an epidemic nature in army hospitals and camps, study the problems presented, and make reports and recommendations to the board.

Dr. Pepper also is a member of the Executive Committee of the Division of Medical Sciences of the National Research Council, chairman of the Subcommittee on Medical Personnel for Britain, editor of the section on medicine of the projected "Medical History of the National Emergency," and a consultant to the Committee on Medical Research of the United States Office of Scientific Research and Development.

Born in 1884, Dr. Pepper was graduated from the College of the University of Pennsylvania in 1905 and from the School of Medicine in 1908. He joined the University's faculty as an Assistant Instructor in Medicine and served successively as Associate in Medicine, Assistant in Research Medicine, Assistant Professor of Medicine, and Professor of Clinical Medicine until 1934, when he was elected Professor of Medicine.

Dr. Pepper became a Fellow of the American College of Physicians in 1923, served as president of that organization in 1939-40, and has been vice-president of the College of Physicians in Philadelphia since 1940.

Prior to becoming president of the American College of Physicians, he had served for twelve years as a member of the National Board of Medical Examiners, and also had served as a member of the American Board of Internal Medicine. In June, 1938, he received from Lafayette College the honorary degree of Doctor of Science.

for December 1941

DR. O. H. PERRY PEPPER

Member of Board for Investigation and Control of Influenza and Other Epidemic Diseases in the Army, appointed by the Secretary of War