

The women taking the course will hear lectures and see demonstrations on diagnosis and treatment of cancer at Memorial Hospital in New York City.

An important requirement for graduation from this officers' training school is that each officer shall present a certificate signed by her physician stating that she has had a complete physical examination during the year 1942. Object of such examinations in the cancer control program is the detection of cancer, if present, in its early, most curable stage.

After graduation, the plan is for these 80 trained officers of the WFA to conduct similar schools in their own states.

Science News Letter, September 26, 1942

RESOURCES

British Reopen Ancient Tin Mines In Cornwall

➤ ANCIENT TIN mines in Cornwall, England, are again being worked since the loss of the Malayan tin mines to the Japs. Cornish tin, the famous product of ancient Britain, had a profound influence on early culture and prehistoric commerce, such as trade with the Phoenicians. Today, many of the mines are extremely deep, often over 2,000 feet. Deepest of all is the Dolcoath, reaching a depth of over 3,000 feet.

Science News Letter, September 26, 1942

EDUCATION

China's Schools Carry On

University faculty slips through Japanese lines to continue teaching "somewhere in China." Conquerors ruin scientific material. Japs reported slowed by malaria.

➤ HIGHLIGHTS on how Chinese universities are carrying on in spite of Japanese invasion and oppression were related at the meeting in Buffalo of the American Chemical Society by Prof. Clinton N. Laird of Lingnan University, who returned with Mrs. Laird on the *Gripsholm* after a wearing time in an internment camp in Hong Kong.

Questioned about causes for the recent Japanese reverses and retirements, Prof. Laird said he thought one factor might be disease, especially malaria. The Japs depend more on atabrine than they do on quinine for treatment of malaria, and since their former bulk source of atabrine in Germany has been cut off they appear to be hard up for the drug.

The faculty at Lingnan, originally located in Canton, consisted about five-sixths of Chinese professors, one-sixth of Americans, he stated. Most of the Americans who were in Canton when the Japs broke in were seized and eventually returned on the *Gripsholm*. A few

remain on the campus, looking out for the property as well as they can. Some had gone inland when the University sent its school of agriculture and its college of liberal arts into unoccupied China ahead of the Japanese onrush.

Practically all Chinese faculty members have slipped through the Japanese lines, one by one, and have made their way to join their colleagues "somewhere in China," where the college year took up again in July at the point where the invaders interrupted it in December.

Much the same tale can be told, Prof. Laird states, for other educational institutions in China: Americans interned and ejected, but Chinese teachers escaping the Jap net and resuming their work at remote inland posts, where the warring Chinese government has gladly furnished working quarters.

Scientific work is badly interrupted, for little of the necessary equipment could be carried away. However, they have some, and small amounts of absolutely indispensable materials are being manufactured by the Chinese themselves. Chinese skill in "make-do" bridges the gaps.

Japanese handling of captured scientific material has been stupid in the extreme, Prof. Laird stated. Soldiers breaking into laboratories ruin what they do not understand, pouring valuable medical supplies down the sink and dumping out critical industrial materials to spoil, even though their own factories back home are badly in need of some of the stuff.

Prof. Laird said that although the internees in his camp were kept on exceedingly short rations by their captors, they were not otherwise ill-treated. He said that the average healthy person lost about 20 pounds, and that those in ill health lost nearly double that. His wife, who was just recovering from an operation when they were captured, suffered a 40-pound loss in weight. She is now in a Philadelphia hospital, continuing her recovery.

Science News Letter, September 26, 1942

Molds are more resistant to acid soil than are bacteria.



LIFE-SAVING SUIT—This new self-buoying garment, made by the B. F. Goodrich Company, has a "built-in" flashlight, knife, and whistle. It is also provided with yellow hood and yellow-palmed gloves to aid rescuers in sighting the wearer. Weighted soles keep the wearer in upright position so that he floats head and shoulders above the water.