

RESEARCH

# Weapons For Future Wars

Many of our best known leaders are at work on numerous projects in university laboratories, research institutes and industrial plants.

► MANY of America's best known leaders in science are already at work on weapons that will be used by the United States in the event of another war emergency. They function collectively as the new Research Board for National Security.

Numerous projects are under way now in university laboratories, research institutes and industrial plants. To reveal nature and subjects of these experiments at this time might endanger national security.

Working to develop new weapons, without compensation except for expenses, are such men as Dr. Karl T. Compton, president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Dr. H. S. Gasser, director of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research; Rear Admiral J. A. Furer, coordinator of Research and Development in the Navy Department; Dr. E. O. Lawrence, professor of physics at the University of California; and Vice Admiral Ross T. McIntire, Chief of the

Navy's Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.

As members of a 40-man committee of the National Academy of Sciences, created by Dr. Frank B. Jewett, president of the Academy, at the request of Henry L. Stimson, Secretary of War, and James Forrestal, Secretary of Navy, these men are formulating programs of scientific research and development to strengthen national security. Appointment of this committee results from a report of the Congressional Committee on Postwar Research and Development, headed by Charles E. Wilson, which advised the setting up of such an organization to continue and expand in peacetime scientific research on the mechanisms and devices of warfare carried on in wartime by the temporary emergency Office of Scientific Research and Development. The research board has already taken over several of the OSRD projects.

Conspicuous by his absence from the new committee is Dr. Vannevar Bush, of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, and now director of OSRD. Although he was invited to become a member of the new committee, Dr. Bush declined, stating that he did not want to appear to dominate the new organization.

Chairman of the Research Board for National Security is Dr. Karl T. Compton. Cooperating with him are four members of the executive committee: Dr. Roger Adams, head of the department of chemistry at the University of Illinois; Dr. A. R. Dochez, professor of experimental medicine and surgery at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University; Brig. Gen. W. A. Borden of the War Department Special Staff; and Rear Admiral Furer. Board members include 17 civilians, selected by the National Academy of Sciences, nine representatives of the Army selected by the War Department, and nine representatives of the Navy, selected by the Navy Department. Placement of military members of the armed forces in reserve status after the war is not expected to affect their participation in the research program.

While the board is set up only on a

temporary basis, it is believed by many informed observers in Washington that it will be permanently established by act of Congress. In the event that Congress establishes a new organization, the research activities now under way will be transferred to it. The Woodrum committee is now considering a permanent organization.

Other members of the research committee are: Dr. E. K. Bolton, E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company; Dr. Oliver E. Buckley, Bell Telephone Laboratories; Bradley Dewey, Dewey and Almy Chemical Company; Dr. Lee A. Du Bridge, NDRC; Dr. H. S. Gasser, Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research; Dr. A. Baird Hastings, Harvard University; Dr. J. C. Hunsaker, NACA; Dr. W. S. Hunter, Applied Psychology Panel, NDRC; Zay Jeffries, General Electric Company; Dr. C. C. Lauritsen, California Institute of Technology; Dr. E. O. Lawrence, University of California; Dr. Linus Pauling, California Institute of Technology; H. W. Prentis, Jr., Armstrong Cork Company; Dr. I. I. Rabi, Columbia University; Dr. Elvin C. Stakman, University of Minnesota; Dr. Oswald Veblen, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton; Dr. Lewis H. Weed, National Research Council; Dr. E. L. Bowles, expert consultant to the Secretary of War; Maj. Gen. Levin H. Campbell, Jr., Chief of Ordnance; Lt. Gen. B. M. Giles, Army Air Forces; Maj. Gen. John E. Hull, Chief of Operations Division; Maj. Gen. Harry C. Ingles, Chief Signal Officer; Maj. Gen. Norman T. Kirk, Surgeon General of the Army; Maj. Gen. William N. Porter, chief, Chemical Warfare Service; Maj. Gen. Wilhelm D. Styer, Chief of Staff, Army Service Forces; Maj. Gen. Albert W. Waldron, chief, Requirements Section, Army Ground Forces; Vice Admiral Frederick J. Horne, vice chief of naval operations; Vice Admiral Ross T. McIntire, chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery; Vice Admiral Ben Moreell, chief, Bureau of Yards and Docks; Rear Admiral H. G. Bowen, special assistant to the Secretary of the Navy; Rear Admiral W. J. Carter, assistant chief, Bureau of Supplies and Accounts; Rear Admiral E. L. Cochrane, chief, Bureau of Ships; Rear Admiral W. S. De Lany, assistant chief of staff, Readiness Division; Rear Admiral George F. Hussey, Jr., chief, Bureau of Ordnance; Rear Admiral DeWitt C. Ramsey, chief, Bureau of Aeronautics.

*Science News Letter, February 24, 1945*

FOR  
RENT

*... the answer  
to your program  
problems!*

## SCA SCIENCE SHOW

A Full Evening of Motion  
Picture Entertainment

featuring

Five  
Films

*Science*

16 mm  
Sound

An unusual two-hour program

Rental Fee—\$25

Shipped from Boston

For complete information, write:

**SCIENCE CLUBS OF AMERICA**

1719 N Street N.W.  
Washington 6, D. C.