

GENERAL SCIENCE

Canadian Research Building Ready For Use at Ottawa

See Front Cover

IN TIME OF WAR prepare for peace, is an adage worthy of being followed in economic conflict such as now grips the world. The impending dedication of Canada's \$3,000,000 laboratory building at Ottawa for its National Research Council is a fitting reminder that research undertaken now will pay large dividends to the community when world economics evolve into a happier state. Always a good investment, research provides one safe way for the utilization of human energy and thought when labor and brains seem to be listed among our surpluses.

Canada's national research movement is an outgrowth of the World War, when Germany's supremacy in application of science was pounded by shot, shell and gas into the realization of the rest of the world. The Canadian National Research Council combines for Canada such functions exercised in the United States by its National Research Council and its National Bureau of Standards. An Englishman would be tempted to refer to the Canadian National Research Council as the National

Physical Laboratories of the Dominion, considering the British research establishment at Teddington, just outside London, as the model.

With a staff of over a hundred in the new building at Ottawa, triple that number of associates on its committees and another hundred investigators working on joint projects in universities and other laboratories of the Dominion, research is being conducted vigorously under its president, Dr. H. M. Tory. Available also for research work are a hydraulic testing tank 400 feet long, an internal engine testing laboratory and a wind tunnel.

Canada has contributed largely to world knowledge in the past. At McGill University, Lord Rutherford of Nelson did his pioneer work. At the University of Toronto, a research group consisting of Drs. F. G. Banting, J. B. Collip, C. H. Best and J. J. R. MacLeod gave insulin to the world. Sir William Osler was a Canadian. Now the research stage is being set for further progress.

Science News Letter, July 16, 1932

PUBLIC HEALTH

Present Year of Depression Breaks Good Health Record

IN SPITE of widespread unemployment and wage reductions, 1932 has been so far "the best of all health years" for a large section of the industrial population of the United States and Canada. Health conditions from the first of the year to the end of May have been better than ever before for the same period of the year, statistics collected by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company show.

During this period the death rate among the company's industrial policyholders reached the unprecedentedly low figure of 9.2 per 1,000. The death rate for May alone was 8.5 per 1,000, the lowest, with the exception of May, 1931, ever recorded for this month. The low rates are due chiefly to large drops in

the death rates for tuberculosis, pneumonia and influenza.

A new low point in the tuberculosis deathrate this year is expected on the basis of the low figure set during the January-May period, which is the part of the year when mortality from this disease is always highest.

Accidents, even automobile accidents, caused fewer deaths thus far in 1932 than in the same period of 1931, and there were fewer deaths than ever before connected with childbirth.

The dark spot on this picture of good health is caused by increases in the deaths from diabetes and cancer. The mortality from cancer is much higher than ever before, with a rise of almost eight per cent. since 1931.

Science News Letter, July 16, 1932

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SCIENCE is absorbingly interesting. Scientists bring forth new points of view, new discoveries, new relationships of old discoveries, and thus they themselves are absorbingly interesting as human beings.

Men and women of intellectual curiosity would like to entertain many of these scientists, one by one, in their homes, but this is usually impracticable.

A So Science Service, Inc., asked these seven great scientists pictured here to make phonograph records on subjects which fired their enthusiasms.

B We asked Durium Products, Inc., to make a price on a set of seven such records which would be low enough to be attractive to purchasers. They did.

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