from $50.00 to $100,000.00 in payment for doctors' bills. If this fact can be gotten before the public there will be a general scramble to buy bonds and the sale of the entire issue will be assured.

The medical profession, more than any other, will have to bear the burdens of this war, as it has done in other great conflicts; but doctors are not "slackers" and they can be depended upon to make every needed sacrifice, without a murmur of complaint. All can not volunteer as surgeons and many must "do their bit" in the service of their country at home. The younger men, except for unusual reasons, should enlist, but many of the older men can not. The older men, however, as a rule, are better able to buy bonds than their younger confreres, and they can thus furnish some of "the sinews of war." It is not only a patriotic duty for those who can to buy bonds, but it is a good investment.

Doctor, buy Liberty Bonds today!*  

*How Liberty Bonds Are Obtained.—Blank forms of application for the purchase of these bonds can be obtained from the Treasury Department, any Federal Reserve Bank, any National, state or private bank, any express office, and any postoffice in the United States. Any bank or postmaster will aid applicant in filling out his blank and the other acts necessary to obtain these bonds.

THE PATRIOTIC DUTY OF THE MEDICAL SCHOOLS

A short while ago word was sent out warning medical schools against the premature graduation of their students and against those new graduates shirking their subsequent hospital training. Furthermore, it has been urged that medical faculty members stick to their posts and not enter the Government services. In spite of this good advice, we learn from time to time of medical teachers who can not resist the call to the colors. As commendable as their courage and self-sacrificing motives may be, a moment's reflection will show the short-sightedness of such a course.

None of us can predict the duration of this conflict, the size of which is almost unthinkable in terms of former experiences.

The number of additional doctors needed from time to time in case the war is continued for some years to come will be enormous. Hence the wisdom of keeping intact our sources of supply in the form of medical schools and their faculties, must appeal to the reason of all thinking men.

France and England made the mistake of closing some of their medical colleges so that the instructors and students might go to the front. Later they saw the folly of such a course. Let us learn from their failures. This warning is especially applicable to the South, where the faculties are never so large as in the East.

THE PHYSICIAN'S PART IN CONSERVING THE FOOD SUPPLY

One of the great problems of the war is the food shortage that has caused almost a famine in England, France and in all Europe; and which seems to portend suffering for the want of food in our own country.

The principal danger lies in the meat shortage. The Department of Agriculture recently announced that there is available at this time 100,000,000 pounds less meat than a year ago. The wheat crop and corn crop, to a less extent, is predicted to yield much less than last year. The sugar crop is also said to be short and in many cities not more than ten pounds will be sold to one person.

Physicians, particularly those who have kept up with the recent advances in diet and nutrition, know that the average man consumes at least twice as much meats as he should and that as a result nephritis
and other degenerative diseases which are a part of arterio-sclerosis are increasing. Physicians also know that we eat much more of wheat products and of sugars and other sweets than can be assimilated. They therefore know that the average man would be more efficient and that he would live longer if he ate less of meat, flour bread and sweets, and the medical profession should give this information to the public.

If one-half the people of the United States ate no more than their nutritional needs demand there would be no shortage of meats, flour, and sugar, and we would not have the present inordinately high prices which are depriving the poor of these necessities.

The medical profession should be organized in a campaign of education that would reach every citizen of the Nation, giving each person accurate information in terms that he can understand as to just how much he should eat of the different kinds of foods. There should be a food conservation committee composed of physicians, ministers and club women in every city, town, hamlet and country district in the United States to teach the people generally that it is not only their patriotic duty to eat less, but that they will be healthier and more efficient if they will restrict their diet by about one-third. Care should be taken, however, to let the people understand that many persons are under-nourished and that every one should eat the proper amount of proteins, fats and carbohydrates to keep well and efficient.

The food problem is at this time our greatest public health question and the medical profession should rise to its opportunity in educating the public as it has done in tuberculosis, typhoid fever and other communicable diseases. If the medical profession will act quickly now it will do a wonderful part in conserving the present food supply; and we may expect from such a campaign of education that in the years to come we shall see a reduction in the mortality from nephritis, heart and arterial diseases that have been so rapidly increasing during the last thirty years.

FOOD SHORTAGE: AN APPEAL TO PHYSICIANS

In the Journal of the American Medical Association of May 5, page 1339, there was published a communication on a most important phase of food consumption by J. Ogden Armour, than whom there is no better informed man on the meat and wheat situation. It is true that Mr. Armour has been a speculator, but no one can question the sincerity of a man who appeals to physicians to teach the public how to live in order that the food supply may be conserved. It is evident from Mr. Armour’s grasp of the present situation that he is a man of great breadth and ability. His appeal to physicians should arouse us to our opportunity for serving our country by teaching the public the truth about the amounts of the various foods needed for the normal man. Mr. Armour says:

“A food shortage without precedent confronts the United States. Unless there is a change for the better, the coming winter will see prohibitive high prices and consequent suffering from lack of food. The physicians of the United States, as guardians of the public health, are vitally interested because the health and the vitality of the people are at stake. It is in the power of the physicians to help relieve the food shortage by taking the lead in teaching people how to conserve the food supply. It must not be forgotten that conservation of the food supply is just as important and just as necessary as is increased production. Physicians can not very well increase the production of foodstuffs, but on the conservation side of the problem they can be of inestimable service to the Nation.

It is generally recognized that people eat too much. As a nation we are more inclined toward “living to eat” than toward “eating to live.” The physicians, better than any others, can discourage this habit of overeating.