

illustrating the necessity of conserving and extending our food supply.

Discoveries in pure science and exhibitions making generally known such discoveries are more far-reaching in their beneficial results than narrow economic explorations. To close museums and schools in these modern war times is like beating all the plowshares into swords—sacrificing essential wheat for an antiquated and little-used weapon.

The education of soldiers, Red Cross workers, relief workers, miners, factory workers, farmers and many others has had to be undertaken during the war on a hitherto unsurpassed scale. It was found that unusual minerals had to be examined and new deposits had to be sought in order to make munitions; new antiseptics and appliances had to be studied and exhibited to those who were to use them; sanitary contrivances had to be seen; methods of increasing or protecting the food supply had to be developed and made known to millions of people. All this work could not be carried on economically and effectively without exploration, laboratory experiments, exhibits, books, lectures, photographs, lantern slides, moving pictures, demonstrations, publicity, newspapers and travelling exhibits. Modern museum work includes practically all these activities and has to do with all these things.

Expeditions to show their results must adopt the museum method. The laboratory makes discoveries but does not permanently exhibit them to the public unless it does museum work. Schools teach by the descriptive method. Museums show the actual objects, which, usually are merely described or pictured through the medium of school and library. Museum moving pictures are censored for the good of the people rather than for the swelling of box-office receipts. Museum publicity is to acquaint the people with beneficial facts.

Science began to come into its own as the war progressed. England appropriated more for scientific research in one year than in all her previous history. At first many men were allowed to go to the front whose work was more valuable at home in war time. Now the French government will not even allow the inventor to experiment at the front because so many men who could not be replaced were lost by the former method.

The American Museum of Natural History in New York made special exhibits relating to the war. One of these showed various food plants used by aboriginal people, some of which might be developed for feeding our own people.