

IT'S BIG news when a great university, on its own initiative, undertakes to give scientific aid to the formation of thought and action of private citizens toward a major social problem. Yale University, in conducting its first School of Alcohol Studies last summer, has rendered one of the finest public services by a major American university in recent years.

This School of Alcohol Studies, the first formal school of its kind in the history of the United States, may prove to be the beginning of a movement that will focus the attention of the people of the nation on the magnitude and complexity of the alcohol problem. Undoubtedly this news will hearten many people who had begun to despair.

The School now becomes a permanent part of Yale. It is under the direction of Dr. E. M. Jellinek, Associate Professor of Applied Physiology.

The purpose of the School was to train community leaders to combat alcoholism through a scientific understanding of its consequences. In this, its first session, it devoted itself not only to alcoholism—or excessive drinking—but to many other angles of the alcohol problem. It brought together seventy-nine men and women, who, in the course of six weeks of intensive study, received a scientific grounding in the fundamental problems of alcohol and what science knows about them. The students represented every part of the country and every aspect of interest in the alcohol problem. They included Anti-Saloon League superintendents, W.C.T.U. workers, Salvation Army officers, social workers in prisons, communities, and cities, probation officers, pastors, church editors, denominational secretaries, a Catholic priest, a Municipal Court judge, high school and elementary school principals and teachers, college deans and professors, state departments of education representatives, members of Alcoholics Anonymous, officials of liquor control commissions, and distillery representatives. Allied Youth was represented by W. Roy Breg, its Executive Secretary. Two other members of its staff, Bert H. Davis and Frances Marsden, visited the School and attended some of its sessions.

Two hundred and forty people applied for admission. Seventy-nine were accepted. The School was not sponsored by any organization outside of the University, but received the cooperation of the National Education Association and

YALE UNIVERSITY'S

School On Alcohol Studies

the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America in nominating those who received Fellowships. The University provided from its own funds the expenses of the School and the Fellowships which were awarded to many of the student body.

These major subjects were treated: physiological aspects; alcohol and traffic; personality, constitution, and alcohol; statistics of the alcohol problem; social measures in the prevention of inebriety; legislative controls of the alcoholic beverage trade; and religion and prevention and treatment of alcoholism.

In addition to Dr. Jellinek, Dr. Howard W. Haggard, Director of the Laboratory of Applied Physiology at Yale, and the Rev. Francis J. McPeck directed the School. Lecturers included Dwight Anderson, LL. B., Director, Public Relations, Medical Society of the State of New York; Andras Angyal, M. D., Ph. D., Director of Research, Worcester State Hospital; Ralph S. Banay, M.D., Lecturer in Criminal Psychopathology, New York University, College of Medicine; Donald S. Berry, Ph. D., Director, Traffic and Transportation Division, National Safety Council; Neil A. Dayton, M. D., Superintendent, Mansfield State Training School and Hospital; John Dollard, Ph.D., Research Associate Professor of Social Anthropology, Yale University; Edward B. Dunford, LL.D., Attorney-at-Law, Washington, D. C.; Halbert L. Dunn, M. D., Chief Statistician, U. S. Bureau of the Census; Haven Emerson, M.D., Columbia University, College of Physicians and Surgeons; Leon A. Greenberg, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Applied Physiology, Yale University; Rev. Seward Hiltner, Executive Secretary, Commission on Religion and Health of the Federal Council of Churches; Norman Jolliffe, M.D., Associate Professor of Medicine, New York University, College of Medicine; Lawrence W. Kolb, M.D., Assistant Surgeon General, U. S. Public Health Service; Benjamin Malzberg, Ph.D., Statistician, Department of Mental Health, State of New York; Anne Roe, Ph.D., Secretary, Psychological Section, New York Academy of Sciences; En-

Because of the great significance of this School on Alcohol Studies, THE ALLIED YOUTH will feature additional articles concerning it. Watch for them in later issues.

voy J. Stanley Shappard, Director, Men's Prison Bureau, The Salvation Army; and Harry M. Tiebout, M.D., Physician-in-charge, Blythewood Sanitarium.

This School was out after facts. Its purpose was to get the students to receive an understanding of how great and complex the alcohol problem is. It was pointed out that over-simplification is disastrous. People working in this field should be trained; they should have all of the knowledge science has available. This School taught a new respect for the handling of scientific information. Allied Youth will test everything it presents in its publications, its programs, and on the platform by the yardstick of this School.

The emphases in the future will be along the following lines:

1. Alcohol generally impairs the psychological functions as to judgment, skill, and dexterity.
2. Alcohol causes a loss of efficiency when viewed from the standpoint of performance of tasks.
3. It has been disproved that liquor will provide strength.
4. Alcohol does not relieve fatigue.
5. It is not a stimulant.
6. Alcohol affects the higher functions of the brain, impairing them.
7. Small and medium amounts of alcohol have this effect, sometimes right after taking alcoholic beverages, when impairment has been found to be of a surprisingly high degree.
8. There is evidence of sedative effect of small amounts of alcohol and in large amounts it is an anesthetic.
9. The nutritional aspects of drinking must be given serious consideration.

Those who studied at Yale this past summer and participated in the fellowship of this School will feel the effects for a lifetime. They plan to return for a few days next summer near the close of the 1944 Summer Session for a refresher course.

As has been mentioned, this School of Alcohol Studies is now a permanent feature of Yale. There a staff is being built to conduct research. Their find-

Continued on page 8