

Campus Life 'As Is' On Way Out As Officials Map Plans For The Future

(Editor's Note: Is college-as-usual on the way out? What are the plans of the Army and the Navy for students in the universities of the nation? No one seems to know the answer for sure, and in the meantime, students don't know what to do. Below, however are two articles discussing probable college programs now being discussed in Washington. One is written by Paul R. Leach, noted Washington correspondent, for his paper, the Chicago Daily News. The other is an article from a recent issue of the National Week.)

Universities Dominated . . .

BY PAUL R. LEACH.

(From the Chicago Daily News.)
WASHINGTON, Nov. 18.—American colleges and universities are being drawn into full war mobilization on a scale hitherto undreamed of by either the government or the educators.

In programs now being worked out for application in the February semester, if not earlier, the War and Navy departments, Selective Service, the War Manpower Commission and the Office of Education will all but dominate the educational institutions.

"Nationalization?"

Government officials and their faculty advisers who have thus far discussed the programs under contemplation shrink from the expression of "nationalization of education."

And a warning to the universities of the shape of things to come was contained in memorandums of the Manpower Commission two months ago. At that time the educators were advised that all able bodied male students should be prepared for combat or service of some sort within the armed forces.

Both men and women, this memorandum said, should be prepared for useful work, physical fitness should be stressed, students should recognize that they could not remain in classes for any specified time.

The educators coming to Washington to learn their future status have been told in broad outline what to expect, but are yet to learn in detail the necessities they must meet in order that the armed services may be virtually doubled, to reach 9,700,000 by the end of 1943.

Many schools now have special courses called war classes. If they fit into the demand for trained engineers, physicists, chemists, mechanics, doctors, surgeons, experts in electronics and communications, mathematicians, and celestial navigators, they will be continued, sharpened up and expanded, according to the plans now in the drafting stage. If they don't meet these needs, there will be few students remaining in them.

Many schools now have their dormitories filled or partly occupied by special classes for WAACs or WAVES as well as servicemen. More men will be assigned to the schools after their 12-week basic army training period and aptitude test periods have been completed for specialist training under Army and Navy direction.

Training Site.

The combat force expansion must take in existing facilities for schooling and housing such as exist at the universities. There will be little or no further new camp construction. The specialist shops, laboratories and equipment which the colleges have cannot be duplicated for additional camps anywhere.

It is being emphasized that the colleges will no longer be expected to devote time to teaching squads east and west and manual of arms to cadets. That is taken care of in the 12-week basic camp courses. The colleges will be expected to devote themselves intensively to specialist training for both Army and Navy, and little else.

General Electric Man Interviews Engineer Seniors

Mr. M. M. Boring, representative of General Electric company of Schenectady, N. Y., will interview seniors in the engineering college today.

Boring states that he will inter-

Collegiate Revolution Near . . .

BY NATIONAL WEEK

A revolution is about to be worked in wartime college education. This revolution will concern every college and every college student.

The definite decision is reached that the college-as-usual will end in June, 1943 if not earlier. After that, the Army and Navy take over. Education thereafter will become wartime education and will bear little resemblance to peacetime education.

Almost all men of college age are to be taken into the Army or Navy. The future of college education stems from that point.

Upper Income?

As plans now are shaping up, the men who will go to college after this school year will be men chosen by the Army and Navy. The official feeling now is that colleges have become something of a haven from military service for large numbers of youths. Often these young men are from the upper-income classes of the nation.

All of that is to be changed. Men selected to go to college are to be men furloughed from active military service. They apparently are to be selected on the basis of a military estimate of aptitude. The men will draw base pay.

Education itself is to be a far cry from the present, on the basis of current plans.

The greatest need is for doctors. It is probable that medical schools will be crammed with students. The intent is to speed up medical education, with a probable end to premedical training and a telescoping of courses. The Army and Navy apparently cannot take from seven to nine years to train the needed doctors.

Engineers Needed.

Need for engineers also is pressing. Here again, what the military services consider a necessary education for military engineering is far different from what colleges have considered necessary. In fact, the Army is reported to believe that, in one year of intensive college study, a man can obtain the basic knowledge needed by an officer in the Army Engineers.

The need for chemists and other technicians is not so great. In fact, one school of thought favors the training of young women as chemists, thereby releasing young men for training required by the field services.

All of this means that college

education as it has been known is on the way out, for male students at least. The social life, the fraternities, the emphasis upon inter-collegiate athletics apparently are to be sacrificed to war after this college year. There probably would be an end to granting of degrees for the war period.

That leaves two big questions. One is, what now will become of the enlisted reserves of the Army and Navy? The second is, what now is likely to become of many colleges and of many college courses?

250,000 Students.

About 250,000 students are in the enlisted reserves of the Army and Navy. Henry L. Stimson, Secretary of War, already has announced that the Army's intent is to call into active service during this school year most, if not all, of the Army's enlisted reserves.

The Navy has announced no change in its policy of permitting students to go along with their regular courses. A change in policy is due, however.

The official Army view is that military training of an ROTC type is of very little value. The men it sends to school will go to school briefly and intensively returning to service, probably as officers.

A basis for dealing with the colleges is still a matter of argument and study.

At present about 500,000 men are in school, either in enlisted reserves or in specialized courses to which they have been assigned by the services. The men in the enlisted reserves are paying their own way and to all intents and purposes are ordinary college students. The others are in the service. Planning calls for all male students after this year to be members of the armed forces.



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