

MILITARY TRAINING UNDER FIRE IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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(Written for the United Press)
WASHINGTON, June 29.

(UP)—Military training in schools and colleges, especially when compulsory, is under heavy fire from leading educators in the United States and from our churches.

Boston University has just abolished the compulsory feature. The University of Wisconsin, a land grant college, did so two years ago. Nebraska proposes to take a state referendum on the subject in the November elections following the refusal of the State Regents to heed a protest from students in the State University.

Majorities of students in Cornell, in Ohio State University, and in the College of the City of New York have petitioned the authorities to remove the compulsion. Among the college presidents that condemn military training for school boys are President Emeritus Charles W. Elliot of Harvard University, President Harry A. Garfield of Williams College, President Wm. H. Faunce of Brown University, President Wm. T. Foster of Reed College, and President Arthur E. Morgan of Antioch College.

The Cleveland Board of Education heard pleas for retention from nationalist organizations from Hon. Newton D. Baker and ex-Senator Pomeroy, and voted 6 to 1 to abolish it. The high school principals of Massachusetts in April voted 300 to 9, according to press dispatches, against the continuance of military training in Massachusetts schools or its development in any way, shape or form.

The Northern Baptist Convention, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States and the great Federal Council of Churches through its Administrative Committee, have all within a month taken their stand against compulsory military training. The Federal Council goes further and condemns any "systematic and technical military training for youth of high school age."

It will be observed that the attacks focus on two phases of the question, the compulsory feature in colleges and all military training in high schools.

The case against military training in high schools can be summed up as follows:

It militarizes the thinking of immature boys, leading them to rely on force rather than on reason and making them chafers when opposed personally or nationally. It gives boys the impression that wars are natural and inevitable at a time when the world is seeking a rational method of settling international disputes. It has confessedly no military value in a highly technical profession. It is no substitute for physical training such as one gets from gymnastics and group games. The obedience it teaches not obedience in general but obedience to a Sam Browne belt. Its discipline is not self-discipline but external re-

presence under the watchful eye of an inspecting officer. It does not teach all-round good citizenship as scouting does nor prepare a boy for service to his community in time of peace.

The case against forcing boys in high school and college to take military training against their will is a rational method of settling disputes in peace time is universally recognized as un-American. A European practice condemned by our founders and justly hated by the American people. It is an infringement on the inalienable right of private conscience unjustified by any present plea of national necessity.

The whole present emphasis of the War Department on military training is believed, on excellent and sufficient grounds, to have as its purpose, not directly the saving of life in war,—for the courses are too elementary to do that,—but military propaganda looking towards the progressive militarization of the thinking of the nation through its youth. The time to stop this process, which could only end in war and world disaster, is now.

THREE BIG LEADERS IN ATHLETICS PASS

CHICAGO, (UP)—Three of the most prominent men of the athletic world have passed on during the last year.

Last winter Walter Camp, the father of American collegiate football was found dead in his hotel room in New York, where he had gone to attend the annual meeting of the football rules committee.

Camp's contributions to the athletic world were invaluable. Under his direction—Camp at all times was consulted on everything regarding the game—football grew from nothing to the greatest collegiate game in the world.

The next of the great triumvirate to pass was Martin A. Delaney, one of the most capable physical directors and track coaches in this country. He dropped dead here while rushing to catch a street car to carry him to work.

For over twenty-five years Delaney was actively connected with the development of track and field athletics while he was physical director of the Chicago Athletic Association. As a developer of athletes, he probably never had a peer. Many of his athletes shattered world's records and won all-around championships. His C. A. A. teams, many times, brought home the championships of the A. A. U.

Tom Eck, for eleven years coach of the long distance runners of the University of Chicago, is the other one of the trio.

Tom Eck was a conspicuous figure in the sports world for over fifty years.

Eck was one of the greatest bicycle riders this country has ever seen. A native Canadian, he gave to that country its first thrill in the riding game.

Perhaps Eck's greatest work was in ascertaining a man's con-



Tom Snarkey of Miami University is called "Ohio's fastest human." Over a period of four weeks he was credited with doing the 100-yard dash in the world record time of 3.6 seconds; set new marks for the century and furlong events in the Big Six Conference and ran second to the great Hobart Locke at the national collegiates. He will compete in the A. A. U. meet at Philadelphia next month.

dition. It has been said of Tom Eck that no athlete of his ever went into competition, over-trained. Eck's athletes were always trained to the minute, right on the edge, that borders over-training, and takes plenty of care to keep from slipping over the line. The passing of the three leaves

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The Fourth of July

has a special significance this year—it is exactly one hundred fifty years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

A great International Exposition is now being held in Philadelphia to fittingly celebrate this important anniversary, and in order to assist in bringing a proper recognition of the day to Ashland, we have procured fac-simile copies of the Declaration of Independence which we propose to distribute to 100 school children of this vicinity who will write a composition of not less than 150 or more than 200 words on the subject "CITIZENSHIP."

These fac-simile copies are 16x20 inches, on the finest parchment paper, exact reproductions of the original, and are desirable mementos of that most important document.

We will also give a first prize of \$3.00 and a second of \$2.00 for the two best compositions.

The contest is open to all children between ten and fifteen years of age.

Compositions must be left at the bank not later than 3 o'clock P. M., July 2nd.

Rules governing the contest may be obtained at the bank.

The names of the winners will be announced in the bank windows on July 5th.

The Citizens Bank of Ashland
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