

Trainees' Morals Guarded Jealously

UMT Stresses Integration Of Youthful Personalities

By BAUKHAGE
News Analyst and Commentator.

(In this, the third of a series on universal military training, further differences between this system and previous training methods are discussed.)

WASHINGTON.—Aside from the loss of his freedom, which I discussed in a previous column, the young men called upon for military training object to having their schooling interrupted or the securing of a job postponed.

The national security training act would answer those objections this way: (a) The trainee gets educational and vocational advantages under UMT which in many cases he would not otherwise have; and (b): He literally earns while he learns.

Let me quote from the November issue of the Army Information Digest:

"Each trainee during the first phase (and if he elects to take a second six months) would receive a \$30 cash allowance monthly. If he is the chief family support, he would qualify for a dependency allowance which would be paid wholly by the government. This allowance would be \$50 a month for one dependent and \$65 a month for two or more dependents.



Baukhage

During initial training, the trainee would be entitled to benefits of the soldiers' and sailors' civil relief act of 1940 and to the death and disability benefits furnished civilian employees of the government.

As to the educational factor, the report of the sub-committee on education, a division of the UMT civilian advisory committee which visits the Fort Knox experimental unit regularly, set forth the principle that UMT should be so flexible "that a man could return to school or to his civilian occupation without a loss of considerable time; and therefore, it is more advantageous to maintain the six-month period of initial training with a minimum of education than to prolong this period of training and permit inclusion of a comprehensive educational program."

To ensure that the trainee does not lose sight of his life objective, a well-planned counselling program is recommended. It would be conducted by an educational staff including a trained psychologist.

The six-month training period where the accent is on the military is by no means ALL military. Bayonet practice and "dirty fighting" have been eliminated, and out of the entire six months only 800 hours are devoted to actual training, the rest to "processing and orientation." There is a once-a-week lecture on citizenship and morality, and general information is included in the regular troop information period. In



Apprentice training in plastics and other vocations are some of the extra duty activities offered by UMT experimental unit at Fort Knox.

the experimental unit at Fort Knox, says the Army Information Digest: "It is not uncommon for the officer of the day, while inspecting a rifle at daily guard mount to ask the trainee: 'Who is the secretary of war?' or 'Who heads our diplomatic mission to Moscow?'"

The relationship between trainer and trainee, according to the Digest, is not that of sergeant and recruit, but rather of instructor and pupil.

Nearly 50 per cent of the men at Fort Knox participate in the off-duty educational program, and some have completed graduation from high school by this route.

According to the Digest report made in June, "the barracks smell" of profanity and obscenity does not exist. Without in any way sacrificing virility, the Digest claims that "a new way of looking at things has been created." Sex has its place in instruction. The trainee gets a healthy understanding of the normal place of sex in raising a family, is taught that the only sure way to avoid venereal disease is continence.

Plenty of entertainment is provided at Fort Knox, including a canteen where soft drinks and snacks are available, but no alcoholic beverages are sold.

So much for the first six months. After that period, there are a number of options which the trainee can exercise. He can remain for an additional six months' training in the national security training corps; he can enlist in the armed services, the national guard, or the enlisted reserve corps with assignment to an organized unit; he can enter one of the service academies; take specialist or technical work at an approved college, or exercise other alternatives.

For those who cannot accept any of the above-named options, there is enlistment in the enlisted reserve corps for six years, with active duty requirements of not more than 30 days a year.

The first experimental unit at Fort Knox has just about completed the second cycle of its training, the first cycle having ended in July.



UMT program centers on a selective schedule of instructive military training.

Since last January, a civilian advisory committee of 34 men and women has served continuously, visiting the unit individually and in groups. They have observed the trainees at work, at play, on leave in and around Louisville.

This committee, by the way, represents a fair cross-section of the parents, educators, religious leaders, newspapermen and public officials whose interest, either personal, professional or patriotic, makes universal training important to them.

This committee says that as a result of this year of training the boys have benefited by definite spiritual and moral training, self-expression through individual hobbies, training for leadership, and respect for authority and the rights of others, as well as gaining military skills which are taught under "discipline, not regimentation."

As one man from Louisville put it to me: "It's an entirely different thing from ordinary G.I. experiences. The boys themselves are the best witnesses."

According to the 20th Century fund, cotton supplies more than three-fourths of all fiber consumption in the United States. Now I know what they put into my breakfast food.

The housing problem seems highly explosive. Frank Creeden, who recently resigned as housing expeditor to join an atomic energy project, probably finds splitting atoms safer.

They have a national letter writing week, I understand. Letter writing makes me weak any week.

BEAUTIFUL SPRING

Inflation to Burst into Bloom

Where price inflation is concerned there is no such thing as a last word. More words, more gloomy predictions always follow.

Latest verbal foreboding by private and government forecasters holds that next April and May will mark a probable crisis peak in the continuing upward trend of retail and wholesale prices.

Flat predictions that meat and some other food prices are likely to soar as winter ends have been made by political officials and confirmed by government and other economists.

Experts in retail dry goods prices are saying that the shelves emptied by the Christmas buying rush will be restocked with goods that will be



CHICK-A-BACK . . . The mother chicken, a pure-bred Silkie, seems to be glaring "What's it to you?" as the camera catches her with a chick on her shoulder. The youngster is still in the down stage, but soon will develop the silky plumage from which the breed gets its name.

NEWS REVIEW

London Meet Dissolves; Inflation Bill Defeated

The lethargic, uninspired ending of the Big Four foreign ministers' conference in London was reminiscent of nothing so much as the rather dreary business of tossing out the Christmas tree after the holidays.

There was a small amount of nostalgia and regret expressed over the abrupt finish of the unsuccessful discussions, but there was also a thinly veiled feeling that perhaps, after all, it was a good thing the affair was over.

As seen dimly through clouds of futility and frustration, what the wind-up of the German and Austrian peace treaty talks amounted to was this: The western powers had failed utterly to reach any kind of agreement with Russia on the fate of Germany, and the failure leaves Europe more firmly divided than at any time since the war ended.

Although the delegates were unable to agree on any single issue on their agenda, the point upon which the conference balloon burst was the problem of German reparations.

To the inevitable question, "What now?" diplomatic authorities were answering with a prediction that the United States, Great Britain and France would begin negotiations soon among themselves concerning the unification of western Germany. Russia would be out of it, and there was no prospect of another four-power meeting in 1948 or in any other year.

CONGRESS: 'Straw Man'

Of the two pressing reasons why President Truman called congress into special session in November, one had been disposed of but the other kept hanging around like an evil spirit as the year drew to a close.

The senate and house had voted strongly in favor of authorizing up to 597 million dollars for emergency winter relief for France, Italy, Austria and China, but no such accord was displayed in dealing with the problem of inflation at home.

Rejecting President Truman's 10-point proposal for fighting inflation by imposing wage and price controls and selective rationing, house Republicans offered an anti-inflation bill based upon voluntary agreements for price reductions.

With a two-thirds vote needed for passage, the Republican measure went down to defeat 202 to 188. The house split almost exactly along party lines over the bill, not one Democrat breaking ranks to vote in favor of it.

"The President has asked for bread and you have given him a stone," said Rep. Brent Spence (Dem., Ky.) in summing up the debate for the Democrats. Rep. A. S. (Mike) Monroney (Dem., Okla.) dusted off another bromide when he charged the GOP majority with "setting up a straw man to combat the menace of inflation."

That was the swan song for any anti-inflation legislation during the special session. Although the senate was preparing to act on the house-killed bill, there appeared to be little likelihood that the Republicans would be able to put through their proposals.

Thrift Plan

Meanwhile, although congress had given its approval to the proposition that interim relief should be rushed to Europe and China, the emergency aid issue continued to send forth echoes.

This time the struggle arose over the actual bill to appropriate the 597 million dollars previously approved by congress. The house appropriations committee, showing the same cutting ways it had exhibited earlier in the year toward budget requests, knocked 88 million dollars off the original figure in preparing the bill for floor action.

Thus, the bill carried only 509 million for winter relief. The appropriations committee, headed by Rep. John Taber (Rep., N. Y.), said the cut was represented by items which would have been used by France and Italy for payment of interest on their foreign debts and for making payments on commercial accounts.

Aroused at the Republican display of economy, Democrats labelled the committee's action as an "undercover" attempt to hamstring the aid program. They served notice that they would attempt to restore the cut.

TRAINING: In Driving

If a training course in automobile driving were made a requirement in the curriculum of every high school traffic deaths could be reduced by 5,000 to 10,000 a year, according to Dr. Wayne Hughes, director of National Safety Council's college and school division.

A safety council survey made among Cleveland high schools between 1939 and 1941 showed that effective driver training reduced traffic accidents by 50 per cent, the council said.

"It is our firm belief that if every high school in the nation would put into effect such a course we would see miracles within five years," Dr. Hughes asserted.

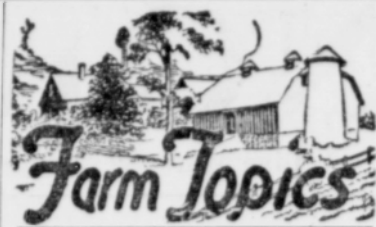
Officials pointed out that statistics for 1946 proved that mile for mile the 15-24 age group was a third more dangerous behind the wheel than any other comparable segment of the population. That group accounted for 33.8 per cent of the nation's fatalities in 1946.

At present only 10 per cent of the 25,000 high schools in the U. S. have what the council regards as adequate driver training courses. And only a part of the schools conducting such courses have actual automobiles in operation.

Guard Strength Up

Members of the U. S. national guard totaled 201,041 on November 30, 1947, a strength larger than that of the prewar national guard in any year except 1940, according to an announcement by Maj. Gen. Kenneth F. Cramer.

Projected strength of the national guard on June 30, 1948, is 271,000 men, 250,000 of whom will be in approximately 4,500 army units and 21,000 in 365 air units, he said.



Lice Inflict Heavy Damage on Cattle

DDT Treatment Cuts High Winter Losses

Lice are injurious to all types of cattle. Animals produce less meat and milk if lice are unchecked. Young animals and poorly-nourished old animals suffer most from lice.

The winter season is the time lice are bad on cattle. The louse population builds up then. Dr. Harold Gunderson, extension entomologist at Iowa State college, says one louse unchecked in fall means 1,000 the following March.

For lice control on cattle, DDT is being used successfully. Early in fall, before cold weather arrives, it is mixed with water and sprayed on the animals. After cold weather comes, a DDT dust is recommended. Farmers are being advised to use a dust containing 10 per cent DDT. Some of the powdered louse killers on the market contain less than 10 per cent DDT, but have other effective insecticides combined with the DDT.

The rotenone dusts recommended for cattle grub control can be used for lice control. Usually they are diluted for lice, to cover greater area and reduce the cost. For instance, one pound of a cattle grub dust containing 1 1/2 per cent rotenone can be mixed with two pounds of flour to make an effective louse killer.

World's Largest Potato Yard Found in Chicago

The world's largest potato yard is located — not in Idaho, nor in Maine — but in the largest city near the geographical center of the nation—Chicago.

In the Wood street yards of the Chicago and Northwestern railroad,



an average of 20,000 carloads of potatoes are handled annually. Many thousands of tons of other vegetables also pass through this yard.

The yard is the central marketing point for potatoes, which come in from virtually every state in the union. Dealers and brokers assemble in the yard each day before dawn to buy, sell or reconsign an average of 36,000 bushels daily. The Wood street yard is a far cry from the wooden platform which served as a terminal years ago.

Milk Testing Traced To Michigan Farmers

By Louis Sellers

Forty years ago a few progressive dairy farmers in Michigan organized the first cow-testing association in the United States. They wanted to improve the profitability of their herds. They hired a tester to weigh



Part of the increase in production can be credited to progressive Michigan dairy farmers.

and test the milk of each cow and to keep a record of her feed cost and income. They wanted that information so they could cull the low producers from their herds and feed the rest more economically.

In the first four years of their pioneer effort, these Michigan farmers doubled the average profit per cow. Since then thousands of other dairy farmers have followed their example with equally striking results.

New Chemical Utilized For Grasshopper Poison

Research men at various state colleges after trying benzene hexachloride, a chemical discovered in Europe and brought to this country for experimental use as a grasshopper poison, believe it is the best thing yet discovered for hog mange, as well as grasshopper control. The compound is a wettable powder that can be used as either a spray or dip for hogs and is sold under various trade names.

Be Hit of the Party By Telling Fortunes



WHO gets all the attention at parties? The person who keeps the crowd amused, of course! And how better to entertain than by telling fortunes.

Deck yourself in a colorful turban and dangling earrings, and be a crystal-gazer. Or there are nine thrilling ways of telling fortunes by cards.



Off, Backwards Farmer—Getting your saddle on backward, ain't yuh? Farm Guest—That's all you know about it, smarty. All you don't even know which way I'm going.

Stopped There "The doctor charged me ten dollars and told me I must drink lots of water and get out more." "Are you out more?" "No, just ten dollars."

That Way "I've spent a fortune on my girl's face." "High price beauty treatments?" "No, feeding it in expensive restaurants."

Bride's father to groom: "My boy, you're the second happiest man in the world."

More Hash A young bride, disturbed by her husband's presence in the kitchen while she was preparing dinner, accidentally knocked her cookbook on the floor. "You've made me lose the place," she cried, "and I haven't the least idea what I'm cooking!"



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