

figures for physical defects released by the Selective Service Commission are staggering. The armed forces are succeeding slowly with the actual training and mental and physical conditioning of their men. While this is being done, other young men of the nation should be taking time by the forelock so that the job will be less weighty for the armed forces when they join the ranks."

Bulletin Number 32 of the American Council on Education contains a report of a Special Committee of the War Manpower Commission, on "The Utilization of Colleges and Universities for the Purposes of the War." It states:-

"Any adequate plan designed to make effective use of colleges and universities, professional and technical schools, must be based upon the following considerations:-.....(6) "Throughout the preparation for war-time service provision should be made for securing the complete physical fitness of the students."

The responsibility of the colleges and universities is obvious. It cannot be dodged. It must be met.

The Executive Committee of The National Collegiate Athletic Association, after careful study and consideration, being convinced of the vital importance and urgency of this matter, believes that in order to adequately fulfill this responsibility, every college and university should provide a physical training program which:-

(1) Is compulsory for all students registered under the Selective Service Act, subject to adjustment for students with physical disabilities.

(2) Requires at least three periods a week of not less than one hour each, preferably of an hour and a half each. Five periods a week, where possible, will increase the effectiveness of such programs.

(3) Is designed to develop (a) Endurance; (b) Agility:-(Coordination, timing, rhythm, etc.); (c) Courage:- (aggressiveness, the combative quality, self-confidence, etc.)

It is recognized that conditions vary at different institutions so that no one set program will be suitable for all. But the basic requirements can be met by all, even by those institutions with limited facilities. College athletic directors are competent to work out the details. Reports on the programs already developed by some of the colleges and universities have been published in the Athletic Journal. Various branches of the armed forces have developed detailed programs, regarding which, information may possibly be available later.

The task before us is a big one; the difficulties are great for many institutions. But it is a vitally important task, which must be undertaken, and accomplished, to the very best of our ability if we are to meet our responsibilities in the war effort. To those of our members who have already inaugurated such programs we extend our sincere commendation; upon those who have not, we urge the imperative necessity of providing such programs at once.

The Executive Committee  
By Philip O. Badger, President  
John L. Griffith, Secretary-Treas.