

Particular attention should be given in securing correction of visual and dental defects, as these are the conditions which are found most often to prevent complete military activity. Students themselves may play an active part in making arrangements for obtaining corrections, and may when necessary earn the money needed for doing the work.

School programs may well emphasize the prevention of eyestrain through proper attention to proper lighting and seating.

Prevention of Communicable Diseases

The prevention of communicable diseases depends partly on education regarding the causes of disease, how they are spread, and how they may be prevented. Respiratory diseases, including the common cold, should receive careful attention in health education because of its importance to adolescents and young adults. Tuberculosis should be included in all high school health education. Students can collect facts about this disease in their State or community, learn the value of tuberculin tests and X-rays, variation in incidence in different occupations and plan with administrators, teachers and health authorities for adequate prevention and control measures in their own school and community.

Depending somewhat on local conditions, consideration should be given to including in the high school program through study and action, the following communicable diseases: Malaria, smallpox, syphilis, pneumonia and gonorrhoea.

Other Content for Health Education

Nutrition, prevention and emergency care of accidents, home care of the sick, home hygiene, a daily routine for healthy living, and help in developing sound mental attitudes, are other important angles of the Victory Corps health education program. Experiences in all these areas should be provided for both boys and girls, for it is important that they not only have an understanding of the factors which contribute to good health but also an active part in working for the betterment of their own health and that of others. Some experiences may be provided in conjunction with biology, physical education, home economics and other courses, but these should be considered supplemental to special health education courses taught where possible by teachers with special preparation in health education.

The bulletin "Physical Fitness Through Health Education" now in process of preparation by the U.S. Office of Education will contain specific suggestions for specialized health education information and activities for the various service divisions, namely, the Air, Land and Sea, Production and Community Service.

Administrative Provisions

There is general recognition of the need for administrative action to provide the essential organization needed for planning and carrying out complete health education programs. These administrative adjustments will be minor in schools which already have well-functioning programs, but will be considerable in those school in which health education has not previously been given due consideration. The most important administrative actions will be these:

1. Fixing responsibility. What is every-one's business soon becomes no-one's business. In each school one person, especially qualified in health education, should be given the responsibility for coordinating all school health activities and for relating them to other health activities in the community. This person should be assisted by a school health committee whose members plan together cooperatively for better health conditions. In small schools this committee may be the whole faculty plus student leaders and representatives of parent organizations. In urban schools the committee may be large and elaborate. It will include