

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
ANN ARBOR
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

March 2, 1942

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
Department of Physical Education
University of Kansas
Lawrence

Dear Dr. Allen:

In your letter of February 23 you asked what changes have been made in our program to meet the needs of the present emergency. At present we have a committee working on a plan that will be submitted to the University War Board for its consideration. It is likely that a new course in physical preparedness will be introduced and that all students of draft age will be required to take this work. This will be in addition to the work now required for freshmen. If this course is instituted we hope to secure credit for it.

In addition to the regular courses in physical exercise, some courses of a voluntary nature have been adapted for meeting the program of individual physical fitness and civilian morale. We have special classes for potential draftees designed for those who are underweight, overweight, or otherwise physically inadequate. The work consists of rope climbing, vaulting, high jumping, running, boxing, wrestling, and playing handball and basketball. Printed instruction cards and prescribed exercise programs are given to the enrollees.

In our required program of physical education special emphasis is being placed on calisthenics, tumbling, boxing, wrestling, gymnastics, handball, and basketball. Weight lifting and track and field are also included. This makes a combination of developmental and recreational work.

In our Intramural Sports Building, which is separate from the Gymnasium, we are offering a program of conditioning activities, including boxing, wrestling, gymnastics, weight lifting, swimming, and lifesaving, in addition to the regular activities program. A special class in setting-up exercises for men expecting to be called into military service is also offered. Swimming has been made available to all members of the Army and Navy R.O.T.C. units. An assistant has been assigned to offer conditioning exercises to those individuals desiring them.