

through the appreciative patrons of the schools that Lawrence teachers may speak up in their behalf. Lawrence is proud of her school system and of course the teachers are responsible for the high standing that Lawrence enjoys.

The matter of general education is but one phase of the crisis. The physical fitness of our youth has been plaguing the country in a most embarrassing situation. Out of Washington yesterday came the following statement: Quote: The office of education today announced three regional institutes on physical fitness among students, in addition to a three-day institute which started yesterday at the University of Texas in Austin. One of the three will be at the Jayhawk Hotel, Topeka, Kan., March 7, 8, 9; local chairman, Strong Hinman, assistant superintendent of schools, Topeka. The institutes are a part of a war-time drive for physical fitness of students in schools and colleges, which started in November, 1942, because selective service figures showed a high percentage of rejections among registrants 18 and 19 years old. The campaign is sponsored by the office of education with the cooperation of the army, navy and federal security agency, committee on physical fitness. All those groups are represented on the faculties of the institutes in addition to local physical fitness leaders. Unquote.

Certainly our university, college and public school administrators will have to assume some responsibility for their short-sightedness in not enforcing a more efficient physical fitness program during the pre-war days. Many educators held to the belief that physical conditioning should be optional. This is a great mistake. A thoroughbred horse or a thoroughbred dog is exercised daily because the owner considers him a valuable animal. Seven-eighths of the returned circulation of the blood to the heart is through muscular exercise. Certainly growing youth should be exposed to a scientific and sane physical fitness program.