

however, are going to college for the first time. Many of these have no athletic skills due to the poor physical facilities of the high school attended. While in the service they were taught few, if any, athletic skills which could now be used in college.

Physical training in the military camps is a toughening process. It consists principally of calisthenics and running over and under obstacles. The average college physical education program, on the other hand, offers such skills as basketball, hardball, volleyball, tennis, softball, swimming, etc. - skills that can be enjoyed not only during their undergraduate days but later in life.

This lack of athletic skills will deter many veterans from using the physical education department. Since people like to do the things they do well, these unskilled veterans will not enjoy the activities in which they are always beaten. In physical education we try and get our students out of the "dub" class in each sport before we put them on their own.

Time should be made available during school hours when these veterans may be given instruction in any chosen skill so they may become proficient enough to want to return to the physical education building as long as they are in the Institute.

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' RESPONSE TO AUTHORITY

There will be very few officers coming to the Institute who have not fulfilled our requirement of two years of physical education. Many will be our own previous students and we know that they will not resent the authority of their "old" instructors. Those officers who were not former students of this Institute will not be "ordered around", as is necessary in a basic physical training course. All officers will be notified that they are to fulfill the physical education requirements by attending a recreational class on specified days, and at a certain hour, for elective activities.

AVAILABILITY OF ATHLETIC FACILITIES

If physical education were voluntary for veterans, many would take advantage of our athletic facilities. They would use our basketball and handball courts and swimming pool, but they would of necessity use these facilities after school. Unfortunately, at that time, especially from 5 to 6 P.M., all of our athletic facilities are strained.

At this Institute we have two years of compulsory physical education. This is supplemented by a comprehensive intramural program. One purpose of this program is to provide recreation for juniors and seniors. Freshmen and sophomores are also eligible for this competition. The result is that our facilities are overcrowded after school. If we add to our present load several hundred veterans who will occasionally use our facilities after school, it might be impossible to accommodate all groups. One solution is to stagger the load throughout the day.

INDIVIDUAL'S CHOICE OF AMOUNT AND KIND OF RECREATION

We believe that many individuals are not competent to determine what exercise and amount of recreation they should have. They will readily admit that exercise is good for them; that they feel better after competition; that it has psychological, social as well as physical values.

If physical education were made optional, many would put off taking exercise regularly and only a few would receive these recognized benefits. This statement is evidenced by an order issued by the Commanding Officer of a V-12 unit. He requested that all his officers and enlisted personnel under his command participate in some form of physical recreation three times a week. When some of these officers were interviewed by the writer, they acknowledged that