

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SUPERINTENDENT
UNITED STATES
MILITARY ACADEMY



1926

WEST POINT, N. Y.
United States Military Academy Printing Office
U. S. M. A.—9-14-26—1000

Annual Report of the Superintendent of the United States Military Academy

West Point, N. Y., June 30, 1926.

The Adjutant General,
War Department,
Washington, D. C.

This report embraces a period of approximately nine months during which my predecessor was in command:

PROGRAM OF INSTRUCTION.

MILITARY TRAINING.

The approved program of military training was carried out with minor changes and with satisfactory results. During the year an effort was made to secure from the Army an expression of opinion in regard to the quality of this training as evidenced by the way in which recent graduates perform their duties. A questionnaire for unit commanders was prepared, but, in many cases, they did not reach the immediate commanders, and, in others, the purport of the questionnaire, apparently, was not understood. As the result of our own observation, it is thought that the training now given is all that the time permits and that it is such as to familiarize the graduate with all of the duties he will ordinarily be called upon to perform as a platoon leader.

ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION.

There have been no material changes in the curriculum, in the methods of instruction, or in the results attained. No material changes are contemplated during the coming year.

The Department of Economics, Government and History which has been in operation for the past four years was finally authorized by Congress June 8, 1926. Colonel Lucius H. Holt, Professor of English and History, and Acting Professor of Economics, Government and History, was transferred by the Act to the new Department. Clayton E. Wheat, Chaplain of the Military Academy, has been appointed Professor of English.

STAFF ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES.

CADET FINANCES.

The administration of cadet finances continued to be satisfactory. Financial statements show the condition of cadet accounts to be slightly improved over the corresponding periods for the past fiscal year.

A considerable improvement in the accounts of the First Class was due to a reduction of the week-end leaves from 11 to 7 for the year.

The Cadet Mess continued excellent, and within the prescribed ration allowance.

CHAPLAIN.

The conduct of religious services at the Cadet Chapel, and at the Catholic Church on the Post, continued without change during the year.

The appointment of Chaplain Clayton E. Wheat to the Professorship of English leaves the Military Academy without a Chaplain. Steps are now under way looking to the recommendation of a suitable successor.

LIBRARIAN.

The work of reorganizing and cataloguing the Library has continued throughout the year. The resignation of the Librarian makes the selection of a successor necessary. An effort is now being made to secure the services of a suitable retired officer for the purpose.

SURGEON.

The work of the Medical Department has been about normal during the year.

An effort is being made to organize the annual physical examinations and inoculations for the cadets in such a manner as to dispose of a large part of these operations during the summer period, thus freeing the academic period from a considerable interruption.

QUARTERMASTER AND POST ENGINEER OFFICER.

WATER SUPPLY.

Sanitary conditions with regard to the water supply have been satisfactory.

In view of the increase of campers in the neighborhood of the Post watershed, the New York State Board of Health has recommended

chlorination of our supply as an additional precaution. Steps are now being taken to put this into operation at an early date.

Work on the new Cadet Mess Hall progresses satisfactorily. The cornerstone was laid June 10, 1926. The foundations and steel work are completed and work on the walls is in progress.

ROADS, TRAILS AND FORESTRY.

There has been no change in the routine work on the roads and trails and in the forest of the reservation.

POST FINANCE OFFICER.

The administration of the Post Finance Office has undergone reorganization during the past year with the result that all payments are promptly made, balances kept up to the minute, and an accurate and comprehensive knowledge of the financial status readily available.

The appointment of a Post Fiscal Officer has operated successfully, enabling the annual estimates to be prepared with greater intelligence and less confusion.

POST EXCHANGE.

The Post Exchange has operated successfully throughout the year.

CHILDREN'S SCHOOL.

The Children's School, under the influence of the new Principal and the Parent Teacher's Organization has enjoyed an unusually successful year. Lack of funds, has, however, handicapped the teaching effort.

MISCELLANEOUS.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The completion and opening of the new Thayer Hotel in June has added excellent, modern and much-needed hotel accommodations to the Post.

The New York Central Railroad has completed a new and modern station at the Post, in keeping with the requirements and surroundings.

The need of additional quarters for officers of the Post continues.

TRAFFIC CONDITIONS.

Traffic conditions continue to be troublesome, with every promise of becoming increasingly so. The annual agitation with regard to the closing of the Storm King Highway to permit of artillery

practice has not been noted this year. It is believed that the proposed extension of the highway through the Post will relieve conditions for the Post and for travellers. Permission has been granted by the War Department for the extension and it is understood that the State of New York is preparing to pass the legislation necessary to build the road.

VISITORS.

The policy of encouraging visitors to the Post has continued and the following have been entertained at the Post:

1926

- | | |
|----------|---|
| February | 17—Military Mission from Japan. |
| May | 22—250 Members Albany, New York, Academy Cadet Battalion. |
| May | 23—200 Members of the Lambs Club of New York City. |
| May | 27—3000 Members National Association of Credit Men. |
| May | 31—3000 Members Polish American Patriotic Society. |
| June | 3—Earl of Stradbroke and Party. |
| June | 4—The American Jersey Cattle Club. |
| June | 5—200 Delegates The National Farm School. |
| June | 7—Crown Prince of Sweden and Party. |
| June | 7—130 Members, Boy Scouts Outing Committee, Sussex Co., N. J. |
| June | 9—Military Mission from Argentine. |
| June | 9—Indian Sandhurst Committee. |
| June | 10—150 Members Flavoring Extract Manufacturers' Association of the United States. |
| June | 12—New York City Christian Endeavor Union. |
| June | 15—The General Society, Sons of the Revolution. |
| June | 17—2000 Members Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. |
| June | 19—Ridgewood, New Jersey, Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. |
| June | 29—100 Members, Exchange Clubs, State of New York. |

M. B. STEWART,
Brigadier General,
Superintendent.



