

ANNUAL REPORT
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UNITED STATES
MILITARY ACADEMY



1928

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West Point, N. Y., June 30, 1928.

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

During the period of this report Lieutenant Colonel C. B. Hodges was Acting Superintendent from July 1, 1927, to October 22, 1927. Major General Edwin B. Winans was Superintendent from October 23, 1927, to February 25, 1928. The undersigned assumed command February 26, 1928.

PROGRAM OF INSTRUCTION.

MILITARY TRAINING.

The Military Training of the Corps of Cadets was satisfactorily carried out according to schedule.

The custom of previous years of sending the 1st Class to Fort H. G. Wright and Mitchel Field for Coast Artillery firing and Air Corps instruction was departed from this year. Due to the interference with traffic over the Storm King Highway by Field Artillery firing at this Post it became advisable to find another range. Authority was granted to hold the firing at Fort Eustis, Virginia, and to combine this instruction with that of the Coast Artillery Corps and Air Corps. This was done at Fort Monroe and Langley Field, Virginia, respectively. A visit to the Portsmouth Navy Yard and to the Tank Center at Fort Leonard Wood was included. The class was absent from West Point from June 9th to 30th. The results were very satisfactory and the benefits derived from this trip warrant the continuance of this plan.

In former years field training for the 1st Class in Cavalry Tactics was given by means of daily practice marches from the Post. During the summer of 1927 a camp was established at Popolopen Valley. Each member of the 1st Class received four days instruction at this camp, which included practice marches, terrain exercises, leader-

ship of small cavalry units, care of animals in the field, camp sanitation, and the usual routine of field service. It is believed that this instruction produces better results than the former practice.

During the year the amount of riding instruction given the 1st Class was doubled, by having one-half of the class report for two hours instead of one-quarter of the class for one hour.

Swimming instruction was given to the 4th Class throughout the year instead of merely until a cadet qualified.

ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION.

The academic instruction of the Corps of Cadets followed the general lines as in the previous years. The text for the course in Aerodynamics was practically revised under the direction of the Chief of Air Corps at the request of the Professor of Philosophy. The revision was satisfactory and is expected to be completed during the ensuing year. I am making a careful study of the entire curriculum and will recommend to the War Department certain changes which I deem most essential and necessary. These will deal particularly with the 2d and 3d Class courses.

STAFF ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES.

QUARTERMASTER.

The regular upkeep and maintenance of the Post was carried on to the best advantage within the funds available. In addition to the routine work of maintenance the following improvements were made:

Installation of central heating plant and ten bath rooms in Band Barracks for married non-commissioned officers.

Construction of a chlorinating and filtering station for the supply of water to quarters in north end of the Post.

Construction of a comfort station north of Trophy Point for use of visitors.

Installation of electric lights in enlisted men's quarters. This was commenced in the last fiscal year and will be continued during the next fiscal year, within the funds available.

Work on the construction of the new Cadet Mess Hall, Store and Drawing Academy has been carried on continuously without interference by winter weather. The building is enclosed and plastering and other interior work is approximately 90% completed, or under contract.

During the year there was only one fire of any consequence. This occurred in an old frame building used for storage of some Q. M. property and the household goods of officers detailed for duty at West Point who had not reported for duty or who had not been permanently assigned quarters. The building together with contents was completely destroyed.

TREASURER, U. S. M. A.

Cadet finances have continued to be in a favorable situation. The initial deposit required of new cadets should be increased from \$250 to \$300. The increase of \$50 will cover the cost of all necessary articles issued during the months of July and August and will insure a complete settlement in case of resignation. The initial outlay of equipment issued to a new cadet at the present costs \$305.17. Those who deposit \$250 remain in debt until June of the following year. The Cadet Store, Cadet Exchange, Laundry and Mess have operated satisfactorily. Numerous improvements have been made in the Cadet Exchange. The Mess has been conducted so that cost per cadet has been almost exactly the ration allowance of eighty cents per day, maintaining a balanced ration of good food, well cooked and well served.

The Post Exchange has been conducted satisfactorily. Food-stuffs have been sold practically at cost, the profit on a yearly business of \$144,588.76 being about five hundredths of one per cent.

FINANCE AND FISCAL OFFICER.

The functioning of the Post Finance Office was efficient and satisfactory. The Finance Officer also performed the duties of Fiscal Officer in the preparation and presentation of the annual estimates submitted to the War Department.

SURGEON.

The work of the Medical Department during the year has been performed satisfactorily. The general health of the command has been good.

POST ENGINEER OFFICER.

The Post Engineer activities have consisted mainly of the operation and maintenance of the Post Water Supply system, maintenance of trails throughout the reservation, and the conduct of cadet instruction in field engineering, map reading, and field fortification. All have been conducted in a satisfactory manner.

POST SIGNAL OFFICER.

During the year, work for the improvement of the Post telephone system has continued. Arrangements have been made with the New York Telephone Company whereby certain toll calls may be routed through the Peekskill Exchange instead of the Highland Falls Exchange. This permits the establishment of "A-B" toll service and has greatly increased the speed of making toll connections.

LIBRARIAN.

The use of the Library during the past fiscal year increased considerably over that in previous years. This is due, I believe, chiefly to the activities of the Librarian in the regular publishing of lists of new books as they are received and the efforts of the Academic Departments to encourage and at times require the use of the Library in connection with their courses.

Conditions as to cataloguing and accessibility of books are improving. It has been necessary to detail extra officers during the summer months to assist in this work.

The Library has received many valuable gifts during the year, among which were articles pertaining to the late Major General George W. Goethals, presented by his son, Colonel George R. Goethals.

PUBLICITY OFFICER.

The Publicity Office continued to function satisfactorily as an outlet for much valuable information and publicity in connection with the Military Academy. Its work consisted mainly in answering special requests for information; in cooperating with and coordinating the work of motion and still picture syndicates in taking news-reels and photographs of the various activities and important events at the Post, in sending individual write-ups on cadets who distinguished themselves to the home papers of such cadets; and in sending out general releases on athletics and news events for newspaper publication.

SCHOOL OFFICER.

The Children's School was operated in a highly successful manner. During the year one additional teacher was added to the staff. The progress of pupils has been excellent and, as shown by Achievement Tests, to be above the average of schools throughout the United States.

MISCELLANEOUS.

For the last three months of the year a Cadet Hostess was employed. Her duties were to assist in the social activities of cadets. The lower ball-room in Memorial Hall was furnished and used as a Visitors Room. The Hostess was provided with an office and was available there to cadets to assist them in any way desired.

During the year, the Corps of Cadets was reviewed by the following:

Lt. Gen. Ritter Von Ruith, German Army	August 11, 1927
Maj. Gen. William N. Haskell, Commander N. Y. N. G.	August 17, 1927
Hon. Maurice Bokanowski (French Cabinet Minister of Commerce, Industry and Aviation, Postmaster General of France)	Sept. 6, 1927
Ambassador Claudel of France	Sept. 6, 1927

Brig. Gen. Hugh A. Drum, U. S. Army	Sept. 24, 1927
Maj. Gen. B. Frank Cheatham, Q. M. General, U. S. A.	Sept. 27, 1927
Maj. Gen. William G. Price, Jr., Com- mander Pa. N. G.	October 15, 1927
General Preston Brown, U. S. Army	October 22, 1927
General Heye, Chief of Staff, German Army	October 22, 1927
Governor Trumbull, State of Conecti- cut.	October 22, 1927
Mayor of the City of New Haven, Connecticut	October 22, 1927
Maj. Gen. Edwin B. Winans, New Superintendent	October 23, 1927
F. Trubee Davison, Asst. Secretary of War	November 4, 1927
Sir Philip Sassoon, British Under Sec- retary of State for Air	November 4, 1927
Maj. Gen. Wm. R. Smith, New Superin- tendent	April 14, 1928
Prince Spada Potenziani, Governor of Rome	May 6, 1928
Maj. Gen. H. E. Ely, Commander 2d Corps Area	May 19, 1928
Maj. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore, N.J.N.G.	May 24, 1928
Hon. T. Douglas Robinson, Asst. Sec- retary of Navy	June 2, 1928
Capt. Emilio Carranza, Good Will Avi- ator of Mexico	June 19, 1928



Major General,
Superintendent.



