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1934

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SUPERINTENDENT
UNITED STATES
MILITARY ACADEMY



1934

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West Point, N. Y., August 1, 1934.

SUBJECT: Annual Report.

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

The following report of the United States Military Academy for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1934, is hereby submitted:

STRENGTH OF COMMAND

	June 30, 1933	July 1, 1933	Sept. 1, 1933	June 1, 1934	June 30, 1934
Cadets	863	1249	1282	1154	881
Commissioned Officers	223	224	223	224	236
Warrant Officers	3	3	3	3	3
Enlisted Men	1217	1220	1175	1182	1160

During the fiscal year, the Corps of Cadets sustained the following losses other than through graduation:

Strength Sept. 1, 1933	DISCHARGED				Total
	Physical Disability	Deficient in Conduct	Inapt	Deficient in Studies	
1st Class..... 251	...	...	...	...	...
2nd Class..... 288	...	1	1	3	5
3rd Class..... 321	1	2		35	38
4th Class..... 422	7	1	...	101	109
TOTAL 1282	8	4	1	139	152

RESIGNED

2nd Class.....	3	
4th Class	9	12
Total	164	

Cadets Discharged for Deficiency in Academic Work

	2d Class	3d Class	4th Class	Totals
Philosophy	1	...	...	1
Philosophy and Chemistry ..	1	...	...	1
Tactics	1	...	...	1
Mathematics		8	36	44
English		11	19	30
Physics		9	...	9
French .....		...	3	3

WITHDRAWN

Cadets Discharged for Deficiency in Academic Work (continued)

	2d Class	3d Class	4th Class	Totals
History	1	...	...	1
Mathematics and Physics	1	...	...	1
English, History and Physics	2	...	...	2
Mathematics, English and Physics	1	...	...	1
Mathematics and English .....	...	...	25	25
Mathematics, French and English	1	...	9	10
English and Physics	1	...	...	1
Mathematics and French .....	...	...	7	7
French and English .....	...	...	2	2
TOTAL	3	35	101	139

CLASS OF 1935

	No. entered:	Discharged for Deficiencies, 4th Cl. Year	Discharged for Deficiencies, 3rd Cl. Year	Discharged for Deficiencies, 2nd Cl. Year	Totals of Class of 1935	Percentage of Groups Deficient
College Certificate	134	22	10	2	34	25.37%
Validating Examination ..	69	3	9	1	13	18.84%
Regular Examination	169	13	15	..	28	16.57%
TOTAL	372	38	34	3	75	Average 20.16%

CLASS OF 1936

College Certificate	138	36	10	..	46	33.33%
Validating Examination ..	72	5	8	..	13	18.05%
Regular Examination	173	19	17	..	36	20.08%
TOTAL	383	60	35	..	95	Average 24.80%

CLASS OF 1937

College Certificate	183	59	...	..	59	32.24%
Validating Examination ..	93	16	..	..	16	17.20%
Regular Examination	164	26	..	..	26	15.85%
TOTAL	440	101	..	..	101	Average 22.95%

ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION

The new program of instruction approved by the Secretary of War on June 12, 1933, was put into effect during the past fiscal year. This program which consisted largely of a redistribution of the curriculum so as to cause a more even division of the work by classes without increasing the total load, was carried out successfully. Under the new program, the Fourth Class is taught Surveying in the Department of Drawing instead of in the Depart-

ment of Natural and Experimental Philosophy. Plane geometry is eliminated from the course and Analytical Geometry is completed in the Fourth Class year.

The work in the Third Class year which was too heavy in comparison with the other years has been lightened by the elimination of the subject of Analytical Geometry which is now completed in the Fourth Class year and the elimination of the study of military campaigns, now covered in the First Class year.

In the Second Class year, the subject of Drawing which formerly was taught for the entire year is discontinued at the end of a half year and the time saved in the subject of Drawing is now assigned to the Department of Tactics. Theoretical instruction in the slide rule and the subject of surveying have been dropped and the subjects of Hydraulics, Thermodynamics and Prime Movers including the elements of Mechanical Engineering are now taught by the Department of Natural and Experimental Philosophy.

In the First Class year, the subject of Mechanical Engineering has been eliminated from the Department of Civil and Military Engineering. Automotive instruction is now given by the Department of Ordnance and Gunnery and, as stated above, the subject of Mechanical Engineering is now taught in the Second Class year by the Department of Natural and Experimental Philosophy. One half of the time allotted to the Department of Civil and Military Engineering is now devoted to the study of Military History.

Efforts were made to renew the intercollegiate competition held with Harvard University in the subject of Mathematics during the preceding year, but the efforts were unsuccessful.

Advantage has been taken of every opportunity to send instructors to civilian institutions for special courses in the subjects which they teach. In the Department of Modern Languages all of the officers on duty have spent a year in France or Spain in the study of their subjects with the exception of four instructors who have studied in the two countries mentioned for a shorter period. The assistance rendered by the three civilian instructors on duty with this Department has been very beneficial.

During the year a laboratory was installed in the basement of the East Academic Building for the Department of Natural and Experimental Philosophy. This laboratory enabled the department to give practical instruction in the subjects of Hydraulics, Thermodynamics, Prime Movers, and the elements of Mechanical Engineering. An electrical laboratory for the Department of Chem-

istry and Electricity was also installed in the basement of the East Academic Building. This laboratory was completed in time for the department to give additional practical instruction in the subject of electricity. As funds become available, these two laboratories will be equipped with modern apparatus. Without any increase in appropriations, a small part of the necessary equipment can be acquired each year.

As shown in the tables at the beginning of this report, of the cadets discharged for deficiency in academic work the largest percentage continues to come from those cadets who enter the Military Academy on college certificates with no examination other than physical.

TACTICAL TRAINING

The general idea governing the military training of cadets is to ground them thoroughly in the basic combat principles; the fundamental tactical uses of the various arms of the service, the teamwork between arms, and the capabilities and limitations of each; and to give them sufficient experience in the duties of enlisted men so that they shall have a general idea of their viewpoint and requirements.

Training methods have followed, in general, the latest developments at the various special service schools. Considerable use has been made of the sand table. During the summer, there has been a decided increase in the amount of marching, camping, field work and terrain exercises.

On account of the location of the Storm King Road, it has been necessary to prohibit the use of service ammunition on the rifle range at West Point. As there is no site on the present reservation where a rifle range can be constructed without excessive cost, this defect can be corrected only by the acquisition of additional land.

Returning to a former practice, cadet sergeants are now selected from the Second Class and cadet corporals from the Third Class.

STAFF ACTIVITIES

The general health of the command has been excellent with no serious epidemic during the year. The addition to the Cadet Hospital was completed and occupied in June, 1934.

During the year, the Signal Corps Detachment installed a new telephone switchboard and a new police reporting telephone system

consisting of eighteen telephones located throughout the post. This detachment also installed a remote control station for radio service in the Administration Building.

1145 new books were added to the Library during the year. Of this number, 440 were purchased from government funds and 705 were gifts.

160 children were registered in the Post School, where classes were held in the first eight grades. Eleven children were graduated from the eighth grade in June.

In August, 1933, Reverend Roscoe Thornton Foust was appointed Chaplain of the Military Academy. The Cadet Chapel Choir composed of 165 cadets gave two radio broadcasts over a nationwide chain.

A visiting nurse, paid from Chapel funds and working under the direction of the Post Surgeon performed excellent services among the families of the enlisted men of the post.

With the assistance of P.W.A. funds and the regular maintenance funds, the Post Quartermaster was able to accomplish considerable work in post maintenance. The steam heating from the central power plant was extended to include a number of additional buildings; a number of roads were regraded and resurfaced; new roads were provided to connect with the new junior officers' quarters and the new incinerator; and some progress was made in repairing buildings and walls, in painting buildings, and in improvement of grounds, and utility installations. Due to the extremely cold weather which prevailed during a great part of the time when C.W.A. labor was available, very little assistance of value was obtained from this source.

NEW CONSTRUCTION

The addition to the Cadet Hospital was completed and occupied in June, 1934. The new Service Barracks will be completed within a few months. Two new barrack buildings, one for the Military Police and the other for the auxiliary troops are being constructed beyond the old Engineer barracks, under the cemetery hill.

Fifty-eight sets of quarters for junior officers are being built at the north end of the post. These quarters are of brick construction and consist of twenty-nine double sets. A new children's school is being built on the site of the children's playground. Six brick houses, double sets, for married enlisted men of the first three grades are being erected near the present Military Police Barrack (formerly the post hospital). A new incinerator is being

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constructed in the woods not far from the North Gate. It is planned to abandon the present North Gate and establish a new exit one mile farther north when the junior officers' quarters are completed. A new Quartermaster plant is being erected on the lower ground north of the Professors' Quarters. An addition to the Cadet Gymnasium will occupy the site in rear of the Superintendent's quarters. At the south end of the post the new Veterinary Hospital is being erected on a site between the Cadet Laundry and the Cavalry Stables. Near the north dock, near the site of the airplane hangar, a sea wall and ramp are under construction.

All the new construction is in charge of a Constructing Quartermaster working under direction of the Quartermaster General. Both the Quartermaster General and the Constructing Quartermaster have cooperated to the fullest extent with the Superintendent and no real difficulties have been caused by having this work under the Quartermaster General instead of under the Superintendent as it was in former years.

GRADUATION EXERCISES

Graduation Exercises were held at Battle Monument on June twelfth. The Honorable Newton D. Baker, former Secretary of War, made the graduation address and presented the diplomas. There were 250 members in the graduating class.

DISCIPLINE AND MORALE

The discipline and morale of the command have been excellent. Throughout the year, with few exceptions, the officers, cadets, enlisted men and civilian employees cooperated to the fullest extent in maintaining the high standards for which the Military Academy is noted.



Major General

Superintendent.

