

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF VISITORS TO THE UNITED
STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

(AT WEST POINT, N. Y.)

JUNE 13, 1906

WASHINGTON
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
1906

REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF VISITORS TO THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY.

WEST POINT, N. Y., *June 13, 1906.*

SIR: We have the honor herewith to submit the following report of the Board of Visitors appointed under sections 1327, 1328, and 1329, Revised Statutes of the United States, "to inquire into the actual state of discipline, instruction, fiscal affairs, and other matters relating to the institution, and to report the same to the Secretary of War, for the information of Congress."

The membership of the Board is as follows:

Appointed by the President of the United States.—Gen. Horace Porter, New York; Gen. A. R. Chaffee, U. S. A., retired; Mr. Arthur W. Foster, California; Prof. A. A. Persons, Alabama; Col. Ben. S. Johnson, Arkansas; Gov. Urban A. Woodbury, Vermont; Col. Charles F. Homer, New York.

Appointed by the Vice-President.—Hon. James A. Hemenway, Indiana; Hon. J. C. S. Blackburn, Kentucky.

Appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.—Hon. Elias S. Holliday, Indiana; Hon. Samuel W. Smith, Michigan; Hon. A. A. Wiley, Alabama.

The Board met in its rooms at West Point, N. Y., on Friday, June 1, 1906, at 2 o'clock p. m., all of the members being present except Senators James A. Hemenway and J. C. S. Blackburn, who appeared shortly after the adjournment of the meeting, and Mr. Arthur W. Foster, of California, who was not present during any of the sessions of the Board.

The Board was then organized by the unanimous election of Gen. Horace Porter as president, Lieut. Gen. A. R. Chaffee as vice-president, and Col. Ben. S. Johnson as secretary.

Gen. A. L. Mills, Superintendent of the Military Academy, was notified of the organization of the Board, in response to which the Board was informed that Capt. Francis C. Marshall, Fifteenth Cavalry; Capt. Morton F. Smith, Twentieth Infantry; First Lieut. Frank O. Whitlock, Fourteenth Cavalry; First Lieut. Willis V. Morris, Sixth Cavalry, and Second Lieut. Marion W. Howze, Artillery Corps, had been designated and directed to report to the Board in order to aid it as far as possible in the prosecution of its work.

At 4 o'clock p. m., Superintendent Mills made an official call upon the Board, accompanied by his staff. At 4.30 o'clock p. m. the Board witnessed a review of the cadets given in its honor, after which it attended a reception at the quarters of the Superintendent, where it met the various officers and ladies of the post and cadets of the graduating class.

At the second meeting of the Board, on Saturday, the president of the Board announced the appointment of the following committees:

Committee on fiscal affairs.—Hon. Elias S. Holliday, Hon. Samuel W. Smith, Prof. A. A. Persons, Col. Ben. S. Johnson.

Committee on buildings and grounds.—Governor Urban A. Woodbury, Hon. Elias S. Holliday, Col. Charles F. Homer, Hon. James A. Hemenway.

Committee on discipline, instruction, and hygiene.—Prof. A. A. Persons, Gen. A. R. Chaffee, Hon. Samuel W. Smith, Hon. A. A. Wiley.

Committee on arms and equipment.—Gen. A. R. Chaffee, Hon. J. C. S. Blackburn, Hon. A. A. Wiley, Col. Charles F. Homer.

The committees were given ample power to examine and investigate the condition, both personal and physical, of everything in and about the post, and instructed to make full and careful reports of the same to the Board.

The Board, in person and by committees, inspected the academic building, the cadet barracks, the mess hall, the cadet hospital, library, administration building, stables, arms and equipments of every kind, the water supply, the plans for the enlargement and improvement of the post, etc. This work was performed with care, for the purpose of obtaining all the information possible. Besides being enabled to witness daily dress parades and guard mountings, the Board was given an opportunity to observe the cadets at drill in infantry, artillery, and cavalry, and in athletic exercises, both in the gymnasium and on the field. It witnessed the evolutions in all the arms of the service, and also a minor tactical problem conducted on the evening of June 7; and on the morning of the 9th it was present at an exhibition of riding given in the riding hall; all of which can not be too highly commended.

The Board also derived much pleasure and information from the various field sports indulged in by the cadets. It highly approves of all these exercises, the robust and healthy physical condition of the cadets giving ample evidence of the usefulness and advantages of such training.

It is with pleasure that the Board has to report that it received the most courteous attention and hearty cooperation on the part of General Mills, the Superintendent, and of all the officers of the Academy, whereby the labors of the Board were lightened and valuable information was obtained. All of these officers were interviewed and questioned in detail upon every point on which information was desired, and every facility was afforded by them in aiding the Board to pursue

its investigations, with a view to fulfilling in every particular the law under which it was appointed.

In pursuance of the purposes intended, the various committees have performed their duties carefully, and their reports are hereto attached for your consideration. All the recommendations made in these reports have been fully discust and unanimously adopted by the Board.

A communication having been received from General Mills, requesting the Board to select one of its members to make an address to the graduating class on the morning of June 12, Gen. Horace Porter, president of the Board, was unanimously designated for such duty, and the address was delivered just previous to the delivering of the diplomas.

The Board remained at the Academy from June 1 to June 13, during which time it held daily meetings, beginning at 2 o'clock p. m., and at other times when convened by the presiding officer. Each member gave his full time to the work assigned him, with the results as seen in the committees' reports.

In conclusion, the Board desires to express its unanimous opinion that the management of the Academy, both in discipline and efficiency, is of the highest order and an honor to those charged with its administration.

The Superintendent, commandant, the heads of the various departments, and all the officers on duty at the post, give ample evidence of their high qualifications. They have shown themselves possess of a peculiar pride and energy in their work and of a marked devotion to their various duties.

As the Board of Visitors we can not close without expressing our cordial thanks to General Mills and his assistants for the courtesies and attentions extended to us during our sojourn at the post, which have been of service in enabling us to pursue the work with which we have been intrusted.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

HORACE PORTER,

President of the Board.

ADNA R. CHAFFEE,

Vice-President of the Board.

A. A. PERSONS.

BEN. S. JOHNSON.

URBAN A. WOODBURY.

CHAS. F. HOMER.

JAS. A. HEMENWAY.

J. C. S. BLACKBURN.

E. S. HOLLIDAY.

S. W. SMITH.

A. A. WILEY.

The SECRETARY OF WAR,
Washington, D. C.

APPENDIX A.

WEST POINT, N. Y., *June 1, 1906.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith, for the consideration of the Board of Visitors, a statement as to the progress which has been made during the last twelve months in carrying out the provisions made by Congress for the improvements at the Military Academy.

In the report of the Board of Visitors for 1905, Appendix A, pages 7 to 11, will be found a brief summary of the work which had been accomplished up to June 1, 1905. I would ask the attention of the Board to this appendix, which, if considered in connection with the present statement, will be found, I trust, to give a concise presentation of the entire situation.

WATER SUPPLY.

The carrying out of the project for providing an ample water supply for the Academy, which has been a subject to which previous boards of visitors have given much thought and attention, will be completed during the present calendar year. The work has been carried on expeditiously and most satisfactorily by Maj. Mason M. Patrick, of the Corps of Engineers.

PLANS FOR BUILDINGS.

Plans for the following buildings have been submitted to the War Department and approved by the Secretary of War since June 1, 1905: Academic building, chapel, post exchange, bachelor officers' quarters.

The plans for the hotel, gymnasium, and elevator are nearing completion. As soon as they have been submitted the architects will begin the preparation of plans for the minor buildings and improvements.

BUILDINGS UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

The following buildings are under construction, and the dates upon which they are to be completed under the contracts are noted: Cadet barracks, September 30, 1906; heating and lighting plant, March 31, 1907; administration building, October 1, 1907; officers' quarters, September 30, 1906; artillery gun shed, October 1, 1906; cavalry and artillery barracks and stables, October 1, 1906.

The contract prices for the erection of the above buildings amount to \$1,706,209, to which must be added about \$11,000 for supplemental contracts and additional excavation. In addition, about \$740,000 has been expended or allotted with a view to immediate expenditure for architects' fees, for grading, building retaining walls and making alterations in and additions to the sewerage and drainage systems, for building the steam tunnel, for quarrying stone, etc., which work is being performed under direction of the constructing quartermaster. The total amount, therefore, obligated to fulfil existing contracts or complete work now in progress is a little less than \$2,500,000.

THE LIMIT OF THE APPROPRIATION.

The present limit of the appropriation is \$5,800,000. The allotment of this amount, which has been made by the Secretary of War, is shown on page 10 of the report of the Board of Visitors for 1905. Under the provisions of the original act the Secretary of War was authorized to enter into contract or contracts for any part or all of the improvements authorized, within the limits of cost. A careful study, however, of the situation as it existed one year ago made it evident that certain of the buildings not covered by the allotments would be very essential to the operations of the Academy, and, consequently, that some of the allotments made must be curtailed unless additional appropriations were to be made in the future. Before proceeding to carry out entirely the construction scheme a definite decision on the question of further appropriation was necessary. A full statement of the situation was therefore prepared and sent by the Secretary of War to the Speaker of the House of Representatives with the recommendation that the limit of the appropriation be increased by \$1,700,000. Favorable action on this recommendation was taken by the House Committee on Military Affairs, but the item inserted in the bill was ruled out on a point of order in the House. The item was reinserted by the Senate committee and has been favorably acted on by the Senate.

It is essential that the question should be settled at this time, as otherwise the authorities are entirely at sea as to what course to follow in the erection of further buildings. With the present limit of the appropriation the needs of the institution in the way of buildings and improvements can not be met, but if the appropriation is not to be increased the best compromise possible must be sought. This compromise will entail the construction of incomplete or unsatisfactory buildings in several instances. If, as I earnestly hope, the additional money recommended by the Secretary of War is given, the general plan will, in the course of the next few years, be completed in every detail.

For the information of the Board of Visitors copies of the letters of the Secretary of War are inclosed herewith.^a

Very respectfully,

A. L. MILLS,

Brigadier-General, U. S. A., Superintendent.

Gen. HORACE PORTER, LL. D.,

President of the Board of Visitors, Present.

APPENDIX B.

WEST POINT, N. Y., *June 1, 1906.*

SIR: I have the honor to recommend that the Board of Visitors consider the advisability of employing civilian teachers for the children's school which is maintained at West Point. The teachers in this school at present are private soldiers detailed from the detachments stationed at the Military Academy, and, while their services are faithful and as satisfactory as could be expected under the circumstances, it is impossible for proper results to be obtained under this arrangement. I invite attention to the recommendations of previous boards of visitors on this subject, which is really of great importance, as it affects a large number of well-behaved and orderly children who have no other opportunity of receiving their early education. The Military Academy appropriation bill, as reported by the Senate committee this year, makes adequate provision for the school, and it is hoped it may become a law.

Very respectfully,

A. L. MILLS,

Brigadier-General, U. S. A., Superintendent.

Gen. HORACE PORTER, LL. D.,

President of the Board of Visitors, Present.

NEWBURGH, N. Y., *June 6, 1906.*

SIR: The inclosed resolution, presented to the Orange County board of supervisors by Supervisor Jacob L. Hicks, was unanimously adopted, and in compliance with its directions the accompanying copy is forwarded to you.

Very respectfully,

INGHAM STUBLEY,

Clerk.

Gen. HORACE PORTER, LL. D.,

President Board of Visitors U. S. Military Academy,

West Point, N. Y.

^a Inclosures omitted.

Resolution adopted by the Orange County board of supervisors June 1, 1906.

Whereas the people of school district No. 2, town of Highlands, are burdened with the education of children living on the West Point Military Reservation, to the number of seventy-five and upwards, which has necessitated the employment of additional teachers and the acquirement of additional room; and

Whereas the National Government has not aided nor contributed in any way towards the education of children of citizens and soldiers living on its territory and attending the Highland Falls school: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the National Government is responsible for the education of all children living on its territory, and that the imposition of the education of said children upon the taxpayers of school district No. 2 of the town of Highlands is an unjust, unwarranted, and heavy burden that the National Government should assume thru a sense of plain duty, and reimburse the said town and school district for its expenditures as a matter of simple justice; and be it further

Resolved, That the board of supervisors of Orange County hereby urge the National Government to take such steps as may be necessary to relieve the taxpayers of school district No. 2 from the unjust burden complained of and reimburse them for the outlay made necessary by the neglect of the National Government.

Resolved, That the clerk of this board be directed to forward a copy of the above resolution to Gen. A. L. Mills, Superintendent of the United States Military Academy, to the Hon. Thomas W. Bradley, Member of Congress, and to the Board of Visitors of the United States Military Academy.

I, Ingham Stublely, clerk of the board of supervisors, do hereby certify the above to be a true copy of resolution past by said board this 1st day of June, 1906.

INGHAM STUBLEY, *Clerk.*

APPENDIX C.

WEST POINT, N. Y., *June 6, 1906.*

SIR: I have the honor to request that the Board of Visitors investigate, and, if it appears to be desirable, report upon the question of having all instructors at the Military Academy members of the detailed staff; appointments of instructors causing vacancies in the branches of the service at large to be filled by the regular order of promotion, the same as in details to the staff departments at the present time. Favorable recommendation upon this question is made in the report of the Superintendent for 1904, pages 6 to 8, and in his report for 1905, pages 8 to 9. I ask the attention of the Board to these references, copies of the reports being inclosed herewith.^a The reasons upon which the recommendation is based are fully set forth in the reports.

Very respectfully,

A. L. MILLS,

Brigadier-General, U. S. A., Superintendent.

Gen. HORACE PORTER, LL. D.,

President of the Board of Visitors, Present.

^aInclousures omitted.

APPENDIX D.

WEST POINT, N. Y., *June 1, 1906.*

SIR: I have the honor to invite your attention to the recommendation made to the Board of Visitors last year that the instructor of ordnance and gunnery be placed on the same footing as the heads of other academic departments with respect to rank and pay. The recommendation was fully explained in the letter printed on pages 11 and 12 of the report of the Board.

I desire to submit the following on a related subject: During the past year the department of military hygiene was established at the Academy by Executive order, the senior surgeon of the post being designated as the head of that department and being given the title of instructor of military hygiene. The subject of physiology and instruction as to the effect of stimulants and narcotics upon the human system, the latter required by law to be taught at the Military Academy, have been transferred to the department of military hygiene, which also teaches the subject indicated by the title of the department. The surgeon, by the operation of the above Executive order, has become a member of the academic board. It is very proper and important that he should be associated with the board in its deliberations, not only on account of the fact that he is now at the head of an academic department covering an important altho short course, but also because he is thereby enabled to furnish directly and at first hand important information as to cadets who have come under his notice in the hospital.

Congressional action is necessary to give the surgeon the title of professor, which I believe he should have. This would carry with it the rank and pay of a lieutenant-colonel. As a medical officer would be detailed to this position for a period of years only, and would not be a permanent member of the academic board, no additional pay would go with the position unless the officer held rank below that of lieutenant-colonel.

The Military Academy bill for the fiscal year of 1907, as reported by the Senate committee, contains provision for the pay of a lieutenant-colonel for the instructor of ordnance and gunnery. Provision is also made for the professorship of military hygiene. It is unknown, of course, at present as to what will be the final action upon the bill.

I would ask that the Board of Visitors give consideration to the above, and that they make such recommendations regarding each position as seem advisable after a full investigation.

Very respectfully,

A. L. MILLS,

Brigadier-General, U. S. A., Superintendent.

Gen. HORACE PORTER, LL. D.,

President of the Board of Visitors, Present.

APPENDIX E.

WEST POINT, N. Y., *June 1, 1906.*

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that for over one year past a committee of the academic board has been giving diligent and almost constant consideration to the revision of the curriculum of the Military Academy. The general objects sought by the committee have been as follows:

1. The determination and explicit definition of exactly what subjects should be covered by the curriculum of the Academy and to what extent these subjects should be studied.

2. The arrangement in the curriculum of subjects naturally connected but taught by different departments with a view to securing the coordination and correlation of the teaching of these subjects.

Other minor but important objects have been kept constantly in view by the committee, but as its final report has not yet been submitted it is unnecessary to dwell upon them at this time.

Some of the questions which have arisen in connection with the deliberation of the committee have come before the academic board and have been thoroly discust by the entire board. Among the subjects to which the board has given its approval up to the present time are the following:

(1) THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SEPARATE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND HISTORY.

At present the subject of English is comprised in those taught in the department of modern languages. This department teaches English, French, and Spanish. It has long been recognized that the head of this department, under the present arrangement, has more work on his hands than one man can accomplish. By taking English from this department, leaving French and Spanish, the result will be that the head of the department can devote himself particularly to one of the languages, leaving the other largely in the hands of the associate professor already provided for by law.

At present, history is taught in the department of law and history. The head of this department is an officer of the Judge-Advocate-General's Department, and his specialty is, of course, law. The professorship is not a permanent one, the officer being detailed generally for a period of four years. The course in history, while related in a general way to the study of law, is not so intimately connected with the latter subject as to make the separation of the two inadvisable.

The academic board has recommended the establishment of a department of English and history, the head of the department to be a professor and one of the permanent members of the academic board.

The study of English is naturally preparatory to historical investigation, and the association of the two subjects in the same department will strengthen to a very important degree the development of a satisfactory and effective course of English at the Academy, which is an end that has been sought in various ways but never effectively accomplished. An important consideration bearing on the subject is the fact that history, and especially the advanced course in history which is proposed, demands of the individual undertaking to teach it special preparation and fitness. The mastery of history in its wider applications and associations requires the study of a lifetime, and the influence of a man of broad academic culture and scholarly attainments would be especially valuable in the double field of instruction included in this course.

While the officers of the Judge-Advocate-General's Department of the Army are undoubtedly, as a class, men of general historical information, they are by no means necessarily historical students, or experts in the broader sense of the word, and in assuming the duties of the present position as professor of law and history, requiring a double preparation, they are very much at a disadvantage as regards that branch of instruction which is not professionally their own.

In general terms it may be stated that the Board has in mind the organization of a course of political and constitutional history, which would embrace the general principles of political economy. It may be found advisable to increase the requirements of the entrance examination in history to the extent of insuring a thoro course in elementary general history corresponding closely to the requirements of the present course in history at the Academy. Such a standard of preparation would be no more than can be fairly and properly required of students whose standard in other respects conforms to the requirements of the entrance examination, and which is covered by the instruction given in high schools of first-class grade, and demanded by the entrance examinations of collegiate and technological institutions.

(2) DEPARTMENT OF PRACTICAL MILITARY ENGINEERING.

The academic board has acted favorably upon the proposition to abolish the separate department of practical military engineering. Instruction in this department, as its name implies, is altogether practical. The work of the department is of great importance, including as it does instruction in surveying; but it is thought that its administration can be more successfully accomplished by placing it under the direction of the commandant of cadets in the department of tactics. The practical instruction in engineering would still be under the supervision of an officer of engineers detailed for that work and placed in immediate command of the Military Academy detachment of engineers.

I request that the Board of Visitors make such recommendations in their report concerning the above subjects as may seem advisable.

Special attention is invited to the fact that all academic departments continue with the regular work in progress to include the 4th instant, in order to afford the Board ample facilities for observing the methods of instruction, recitation, etc., in vogue in each department.

Very respectfully,

A. L. MILLS,

Brigadier-General, U. S. A., Superintendent.

Gen. HORACE PORTER, LL. D.,

President of the Board of Visitors, Present.

APPENDIX F.

WEST POINT, N. Y., *June 6, 1906.*

SIR: I desire to report as follows concerning the arms and equipment in the hands of the cadets and those available for their instruction:

The cadets are armed with the United States magazine rifle, model of 1903. The rifle is not of the latest pattern, but it is of the same pattern as the rifle recently issued to troops on this post. The latest pattern rifle is provided with a knife bayonet, and otherwise differs from the rifle carried by the cadets, but in details only.

The field equipment of the cadet is that carried by the regular soldier.

In addition the cadets receive instruction at the hands of the tactical department in the use of the following weapons, including actual firing: Colt revolver, caliber .38; 2 Gatling guns, caliber .30; 1 Colt automatic machine gun, caliber .30; 4 Vickers-Maxim mountain guns, 75 millimeters; four 3-inch field rifles, model of 1902; subcaliber tube, 1-pounder, in 8-inch seacoast rifle.

Instructions in the service of the following pieces is also given. These pieces are not fired: Six 7-inch mortars, four 5-inch siege rifles, two 7-inch siege howitzers, one 8-inch rifle, one 12-inch mortar.

The instruction received by the cadets in the department of ordnance and gunnery covers the mechanical construction and general principles governing the use of the various classes of ordnance used in the service. The text-book instruction is supplemented by the study of models kept in the ordnance museum.

Very respectfully,

ORMOND M. LISSAK,

Major, Ordnance Department, United States Army,

Instructor of Ordnance and Gunnery.

The CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS,

West Point, N. Y.

(Thru the adjutant United States Military Academy.)

APPENDIX G.

WEST POINT, N. Y., *June 6, 1906.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following statement concerning the clothing, arms, and equipment of the battalion of cadets:

CLOTHING.

There has been no recent change in the clothing of cadets.

Attention is invited to Orders No. 130, Headquarters United States Corps of Cadets, August 6, 1905 (copy appended hereto), which shows the various uniforms and the occasions upon which they are worn.

ARMS.

There are on hand for the use of cadets 522 magazine rifles, caliber .30, model of 1903; 24 Krag-Jørgensen magazine rifles, caliber .30, model of 1898; 30 revolvers, caliber .38, model of 1903; 120 cadet swords. Sabers are used by cadets when at cavalry drills.

The cadets are armed with the Springfield rifle, model of 1903, with the old sight and rod bayonet. It is most important that the corps of cadets be armed with the very latest rifle. No cadet should graduate without having accurate knowledge of the latest improvements in arms and equipment.

It is particularly desirable to have this command thoroly and properly equipped. Attention is invited to appended correspondence upon the subject of equipping the battalion with the improved Springfield rifle.

For the instruction of cadets—

FIELD ARTILLERY.

One battery of 3-inch field artillery, model of 1902 (a requisition has been approved for 4 additional guns and carriages of the same model, for instruction in the school of the cannoneer); two Maxim-Nordenfelt 75-millimeter mountain guns, with both English and American packs; four 5-inch breech-loading siege rifles; two 7-inch breech-loading howitzers; six 7-inch siege mortars.

COAST ARTILLERY.

One 8-inch breech-loading rifle on barbette carriage, model of 1892; one 12-inch breech-loading mortar on spring-return carriage, model of 1891.

Position-finding system.—One Swazey depression position finder, Type A; one azimuth instrument; one Whistler-Hearn plotting board; one Pratt ballistic board; one deflection board; six telephones,

with ilnes; one wind component device; barometer, thermometer, master clock, time-interval bells, time-interval recorders, etc., for the system.

MACHINE GUNS.

One Colt automatic gun, model of 1899; 2 Gatling guns on carriages equipped with shields.

A requisition will be made at once for new model Maxim guns.

It has been found impossible to procure suitable artillery horses for the authorized price, and in consequence there are only enough horses for 4-horse teams. Six-horse teams will be used as soon as horses can be purchased, but horses suited to the artillery are difficult to procure. The strength in horses and men for the artillery detachment should be increased to that of a battery.

The fire control system for the coast artillery has been temporarily installed in an old stable that is in no way suited to the work.

The following standard type of buildings are urgently needed for this work, for without them proper use can not be made of the expensive and delicate instruments on hand: One primary station, 1 secondary station, 1 battery commander's station, 1 searchlight station, 2 emplacement booths for telephones and telautographs.

A company's allowance of ammunition for target practise with 12-inch, 6-inch, and 5-inch or 15-pounder guns should be allotted annually to the corps of cadets for the instruction of the first class at the fortifications.

EQUIPMENTS.

There has been no recent change in the equipment of cadets.

The battalion is equipped with the regular field equipment of the enlisted men of the Army, with the addition of special intrenching tools, consisting of light picks and shovels, which are reasonably satisfactory, and are carried by cadets of the third and fourth classes—one pick and three shovels to each squad.

Attention is invited to the appended weights of the cadet equipment; also to photograph^a of the field equipment, excepting the rifle.

All clothing, arms, and equipment of the battalion of cadets are in good condition.

Very respectfully,

ROBT. L. HOWZE,
Lieutenant-Colonel, U. S. A.,
Commandant of Cadets.

The ADJUTANT UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY.

^aOmitted.

ORDERS }
No. 130. }

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES CORPS OF CADETS,

West Point, N. Y., August 6, 1905.

I. The following composition of the uniforms of the cadets of the United States Military Academy and the occasions upon which they are to be worn is hereby published for the information and guidance of those concerned:

Uniform.	Composition.	Occasion.
Full dress: Dismounted ...	<p>(a) Dress coat, gray trousers, dress hat, black shoes, white gloves, white cross and waist belts, cartridge box. For cadet officers: Plume, sword belt, silk sash, sword.</p> <p>(b) Dress coat, gray trousers, forage cap, black shoes, white gloves, white waist belt. For cadet officers: Sword belt, silk sash, sword.</p> <p>(c) Dress coat, gray trousers, forage cap, patent or black leather shoes, white gloves.</p>	Reviews, parades, and other ceremonies, unless otherwise prescribed.
Mounted	<p>When the overcoat is worn with (b) or (c) it will be over all.</p> <p>(d) Dress coat, dress hat, riding breeches, leggings, black shoes, leather gloves, leather belt.</p> <p>Between June 1 and September 15 white duck trousers will be worn unless otherwise ordered. Between September 16 and May 31 gray trousers will be worn.</p>	Church formations, official receptions.
Drill uniform.....	<p>(e) Blouse, overcoat, forage cap, gray trousers, black shoes, white cross and waist belts, cartridge box, leather gloves. For officers: Sword, worsted sash.</p> <p>(f) Blouse, gray trousers, leggings, black shoes, white cross and waist belts, forage cap, white gloves. For cadet officers: White sword belt, sword, worsted sash.</p> <p>(g) Gray shirts, gray trousers, leggings, black shoes, campaign hat, field belt, leather gloves, black tie. For cadet officers: Leather sword belt.</p> <p>(h) Gray shirt, gray trousers, leggings, black shoes, campaign hat, leather gloves, black tie.</p>	Reviews, parades, and other ceremonies in cold weather.
Dress uniform.....	<p>(i) Gray shirts, riding breeches, leggings, black shoes, black tie, campaign hat, leather gloves, and saber belts.</p>	Infantry drill.
Service uniform...	<p>Spurs will be worn only when specially ordered. In cold weather the blouse will be worn with drill uniforms (g), (h), and (i) over the gray shirt.</p> <p>(k) Blouse, gray or white trousers, black shoes, forage cap, white collar, cuffs.</p> <p>(l) Blouse, gray trousers, gray shirt, leggings, black shoes, field belt, campaign hat, leather gloves, blanket roll, mess equipment, canteen, intrenching tool. For cadet officers: Leather sword belt, revolver holster on right hip, field glasses on left hip.</p> <p>The equipments for field service will be carried as follows: Blanket roll over the left shoulder and under the right arm. Haversack suspended over the left hip, from the holes between the second and third and fifth and sixth pockets of the field belt, counting from the front to the left. Canteen suspended from the hole between the sixth and seventh pockets of the field belt, counting from the front to the left. Intrenching tool suspended over the haversack. Tin cup on the right hook of the haversack. Mess equipment in the haversack.</p> <p>In warm weather the blouse will not be worn. White collars and cuffs will be worn, except with gray shirts.</p>	Infantry field work, marches, etc., target practise.
Dress uniform.....		Mixed drills: P. M. E. 3.2-inch rifles, coast artillery, pack drill, etc.
Service uniform...		Cavalry, field artillery, equitation.
Dress uniform.....		Habitual wear in barracks and camp.
Service uniform...		Field work and marches when ordered.

By order of Lieutenant-Colonel Howze:

F. E. HUMPHREYS,
Cadet Lieutenant and Adjutant.

FEBRUARY 5, 1906.

C. W. Exton, captain, Twentieth Infantry, ordnance officer United States Corps of Cadets, requests that requisition of 25th ultimo, for 522 new magazine rifles, caliber .30, 1903, of latest design, be reconsidered for reasons stated within.

The Chief of Ordnance, in letter dated January 29, 1906, stated that this requisition could not be filled until the Army was supplied.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES CORPS OF CADETS,
West Point, N. Y., February 5, 1906.

Respectfully forwarded.

It is earnestly requested that the new rifle be supplied to cadets for the reasons stated within.

It seems hardly necessary to further emphasize the importance of having the graduating cadets thoroly familiar with the latest and best type of every equipment.

Every effort is made here to acquaint the cadet with the best conditions which exist in the service.

No degree of perfection can be reached unless proper equipment is supplied to and handled by the battalion of cadets. It is deemed of the very greatest importance to have the latest model of rifle for the proper instruction of the United States Corps of Cadets.

ROBT. L. HOWZE,
Lieutenant-Colonel, U. S. A., Commandant of Cadets.

* * * * *

[Fourth indorsement.]

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ORDNANCE,
Washington, February 12, 1906.

Respectfully returned to The Military Secretary.

The reasons given within do not seem to be sufficient for changing the decision already arrived at.

The cadets at West Point have now a gun which is very nearly like the one which is to be issued to the Army, the sights and the bayonet being practically the only differences, and these being differences of detail which do not require previous instruction for their quick comprehension.

The replacement of guns after two seasons' use, because of unsightliness and of wear from target practise and cleaning, can not be considered for any part of the service. The expense of such frequent change would be prohibitive.

WILLIAM CROZIER,
Brigadier-General, Chief of Ordnance.

[Fifth indorsement.]

To Superintendent United States Military Academy, by Chief of Staff, February 13, 1906.

[Sixth indorsement.]

To ordnance officer, thru commandant of cadets, by Superintendent United States Military Academy, February 14, 1906.

[Seventh indorsement.]

Returned to adjutant United States Military Academy, contents noted, by commandant of cadets, February 15, 1906.

Weights of cadet uniforms and equipment.

	CLOTHING.	Lbs.	Oz.
Overcoat.....		7	2
Blouse.....		3	3
Trousers, cloth.....		2	0
Trousers, flannel.....		1	4.5
Breeches.....		2	2.5
Dress coat.....		3	6
Shoes, uniform.....		2	5
Forage cap.....		0	7
Dress hat.....		0	13
Campaign hat.....		0	4
Gray shirt and tie.....		0	12
Gloves.....		0	2.5
Leggings.....		0	12
White shirt, collar, and cuffs.....		0	11
Socks, woolen.....		0	2
Socks, cotton.....		0	2
Suit underwear, winter.....		1	4
Suit underwear, summer.....		0	11
Toothbrush.....	}	0	10
Comb.....			
Soap (1 bar).....			
Towel.....			
Blanket.....		4	3.5
Poncho.....		2	5
EQUIPMENT.			
Shelter half, poles, and pins.....		3	15
Haversack.....		1	4
Canteen with strap.....		0	14.5
Meat can.....		0	15
Knife, fork, and spoon.....		0	5
Tin cup.....		0	7.5
Leather belt.....		0	8
Sliding frog.....		0	2
Revolver.....		2	0
Revolver holster.....		0	8.5
Rifle, U. S. magazine, cal. 30 (1903).....		8	13.5
Cartridge belt and suspenders.....		1	9
Gunsling.....		0	4.5
Cartridge box (cadet).....		0	9.5
100 rounds of ball cartridges.....		6	14
100 rounds of blank cartridges.....		3	7
Intrenching pick and carrier.....		3	10.5
Intrenching spade and carrier.....		2	1
Cadet sword.....		2	.5
Blanket roll:			
Shelter half.....	}	8	12.5
Blanket.....			
Toothbrush.....			
Comb.....			
Soap.....			
Towel.....			
Shoes.....		2	5
Suit of underwear and socks.....		0	13

APPENDIX H.

WEST POINT, N. Y., *June 9, 1906.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following information relative to the new buildings in course of construction, and forming part of the general scheme of improvements, which was authorized by act of Congress, June 28, 1902. These buildings are—

Barracks for detachment of cavalry, accommodating 125 men; barracks for detachment of artillery, accommodating 125 men; stables for cavalry horses, accommodating 150 animals; stables for artillery horses, accommodating 150 animals; gun shed for artillery, accommodations for one field battery.

The plans for the above buildings were completed by the spring of 1904, but owing to the limitations of the act of June 28, 1902, their construction could not be started until July of 1905. The Church Construction Company, of New York, was awarded the contract for the entire group at a cost of \$408,319. Their contract calls for the completion of the buildings, ready for occupation, the work to be completed by October 1, 1906. The barracks buildings have been so planned that the wings containing the dormitories can be extended so as to accommodate 150 men in each building. Room has also been left for the addition of a wing to the rear of each stable, if such extension should be required in the future.

Cadet barracks provides accommodation for 224 cadets; four triple sets lieutenants' quarters, accommodating 12 married officers; two double sets captains' quarters, accommodating 4 married officers.

The plans for these buildings were completed during the fall and winter of 1904. The erection of the officers' quarters was commenced on or about April 1, 1905, as soon as the climatic conditions permitted. Work on the cadet barracks did not commence until July 1, 1905, owing to the fact that the site selected for it was occupied by several buildings used as officers' quarters, which could not be vacated until the latter part of June. Contract for the second group of buildings was awarded to the Broderick & Wind Engineering and Construction Company, of New York, at a cost of \$510,441.60 for the entire group.

The plan for the cadet barracks provides an L-shaped building, 4 stories in height, with basement, with 112 rooms in the east wing, 48 rooms in the north wing, a total of 160 rooms, which would accommodate, at the rate of 2 cadets to a room, 320 cadets. As the east wing with its 112 rooms would provide sufficient accommodations for the present, the authorities decided to omit construction of the north wing, thereby making a saving of about \$115,000 in the cost of the building. The contract calls for the erection of the building complete, ready for occupation, work to be completed by October 1, 1906.

The administration building will accommodate the offices of the Superintendent, quartermaster, adjutant, museum, academic board room, court-martial room, post-office, telegraph office, printing office, book bindery, and storage for records.

The plans for this building were completed and approved in the fall of 1905 and contract awarded early in the spring of 1906. Work commenced about the middle of March, as soon as the weather conditions permitted commencement of building operations. The work is being done by the J. W. Bishop Company, of Worcester, Mass., the contract being for the building complete and ready for occupation, at a cost of \$428,624. The contract for the heating system was let separately to C. H. Sanborn, of Boston, Mass., at a cost of \$11,002. This building is to be completed by October 1, 1907.

In the heating and lighting plant will be generated the electric current required for lighting all the buildings and roads on the post, and electric power for such buildings as require it. It will also provide steam for heating the cadet hospital, cadet mess, cadet barracks (old and new), gymnasium, cadet headquarters and store, academic buildings (old and new), administration building, riding hall, library, officers' mess and quarters, memorial hall, bachelor officers' quarters, and hotel; also such other buildings as may be erected in the future and for which sites have been provided on the approved general plan.

Plans for the mechanical equipment of this building were finished in the summer of 1904, and contracts let the following fall and winter, as follows:

General Electric Company, of Schenectady, N. Y., electrical equipment.....	\$42,700
Babcock & Wilcox Company, of New York, boilers and mechanical draft apparatus.....	37,447
Providence Engineering Works, of Providence, R. I., Corliss engines.....	32,970
Robbins Conveyor-Belt Company, New York, coal-conveying apparatus....	19,610

The plans for the building proper were completed in November, 1905; bids were opened on February 1, 1906, and contracts awarded as follows:

The Church Construction Company, of New York, for building, exclusive of structural steel.....	\$167,200
J. B. & J. M. Cornell Company, New York, for structural steel only.....	58,780

The work on the mechanical equipment is about completed, so that it will be ready for prompt installation as soon as the construction of the building has progressed far enough to enable this to be done. The building proper is to be erected and ready by November 30, 1906, and the mechanical equipment will be ready for operation within four months after completion of the building.

The plans for the building provide for a boiler room and an engine room; the former is approximately 160 feet long and 45 feet wide,

the latter 100 feet long and 80 feet wide. These dimensions were fixed in order to provide room for future expansion, or increase in the mechanical equipment, should the growth of the Academy demand it. The boiler room allows space for seven 440 horsepower water-tube boilers, or a total of 3,080 horsepower. The contract with the Babcock & Wilcox Company provides for only four of these boilers, giving a total of 1,760 horsepower, which is all that is deemed necessary for immediate requirements. The coal bunker is located immediately over the boiler room, and has a storage capacity of approximately 4,000 tons. The plans contemplate, for the present, delivery of the coal on cars from a switch which will be run into the tower at the south end of the building, and then conveyed by means of belts and buckets, by electric power, to the bunkers.

The contract with the Providence Engineering Works calls for two compound and one simple Corliss engines, the two former operating each one 440 kilowatt direct-current generator and the latter one 200 kilowatt direct-current generator. If necessary, space is provided for installing two additional engines, one compound and one simple, with their generators.

The chimney for the boilers will be carried up in the southeast corner of the tower of the proposed riding hall, which is located immediately north of the power house.

The excavation for this building was done under the supervision of this office, by the hire of labor and the purchase of such equipment as was necessary. This latter was comparatively small in amount, as there were a number of steam drills, boilers, hoisting engines, and other material on hand belonging to the Academy, which were utilized in this work.

The pipes conveying steam to the different buildings to be heated will be carried in a tunnel, varying in size from 6 by 7 inches, interior dimensions, at the power house, to 4 by 5 inches toward its terminus.

The construction of the tunnel is being done under the supervision of this office, by the purchase of material and hire of labor. Its estimated cost is \$50,000, but it is anticipated that the actual cost will be less.

Such of the buildings served by the power-house plant as can be efficiently and economically reached will be heated with exhaust steam from the engines; the other buildings will be supplied with steam under pressure of from 60 to 80 pounds, depending upon requirements.

Electric current for lighting and power will be conveyed thru cables laid underground in a subway, in accordance with the most modern practise for such work. Ducts will also be laid in this subway to carry the telephone and fire-alarm cables.

The following table shows the estimated degree of completion of each of the buildings mentioned above:

	Per cent.
Cavalry barracks	10.00
Artillery barracks	24.00
Cavalry stables	30.00
Artillery stables	48.00
Gun shed	61.00
Cadet barracks	11.00
Lieutenants' quarters:	
No. 1	69.00
No. 2	55.00
No. 3	68.00
No. 4	65.00
Captains' quarters:	
No. 1	75.00
No. 2	30.00
Post headquarters65
Power-house building proper60

In addition to the buildings mentioned above, there is also under construction by contract a storm and surface drain and house sewer at the south end of the post, for the purpose of taking care of the sewage from the cavalry and artillery barracks and stables and the side-hill and surface water in that neighborhood.

The establishment of the cavalry and artillery drill grounds at the south end of the post necessitated the drainage of a marsh, which this storm drain will care for. The cost of this drain and sewer will be approximately \$34,000, and will be completed by August 1, 1906. It is about 69 per cent completed.

The improvements planned have necessitated a considerable amount of road building, retaining walls, laying of new sewers, changing lines of old sewers, laying water and gas mains, sidewalks, etc. This work is of such a character and is so connected with the construction of the buildings that it was deemed best to do it under the supervision of this office by hire of labor and purchase of material. The larger part of the retaining walls that will be required have been completed, and also the heavy part of road building, sewers, water and gas mains.

A detailed report of the operations of this office for the year ending August 1, 1905, will be found on page 53 of the annual report of the Superintendent of the United States Military Academy, 1905, of which I take pleasure in inclosing a copy.

Very respectfully,

J. M. CARSON, Jr.,

*Major and Quartermaster, U. S. A.,
in Charge of Construction.*

Hon. URBAN A. WOODBURY,

Committee on Buildings and Grounds,

Board of Visitors, West Point, N. Y.

(Thru Superintendent United States Military Academy.)

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FISCAL AFFAIRS.

WEST POINT, N. Y., *June 9, 1906.*

SIR: We have the honor to report to you that we have made a careful and detailed inspection of the affairs of the Military Academy which come properly within the scope of our committee. In making all of our investigations we have been greatly aided by Brig. Gen. A. L. Mills, Superintendent of the Academy, Captain Franklin, commissary of cadets, and all other officers who had anything to do with the receipt and disbursement of moneys.

The details of the fiscal organization have been so fully covered by previous reports that we deem it unnecessary to go into them; and we refer to those reports and the exhibits filed with the present general report for detailed information.

We find that the books of the disbursing officers have been kept carefully and methodically, and the system of bookkeeping adopted by Captain Franklin meets our entire approval. Under this system each cadet has practically a bank account with the commissary; the books are balanced at regular intervals, and the cadet not only may know, but must know, the actual condition of his finances to a cent. The habit thus acquired of keeping close track of his finances and expenditures will be very useful to him thru future life.

In connection with the examination made of the books and accounts we carefully inspected the stores, work rooms, mess room, and kitchen, all of which are under the supervision of the commissary. The supplies seem to have been most carefully selected, and the kitchen and mess room might well be selected as models by other institutions.

Each cadet is required to pay \$9.50 every month into what is known as the equipment fund. Upon his graduation the accumulated fund to his credit is paid to him to enable him to purchase his uniform and other articles necessary for his use on becoming an officer. If for any reason he leaves the Academy before graduating, he is paid the amount contributed by him to this fund. The aggregate of the money thus paid by the cadets to the commissary amounts to a large sum, the average balance being about \$50,000. Under the present law this money must be kept in the subtreasury, where nothing is paid for its use. Your committee recommends such legislation as will provide for the payment of interest on such deposits, under such rules and regulations as Congress may prescribe.

We believe that the fiscal affairs of the Academy generally are in excellent shape, and we have no further recommendations to make.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. S. HOLLIDAY.

S. W. SMITH.

A. A. PERSONS.

B. S. JOHNSON.

Gen. HORACE PORTER,

President of the Board of Visitors.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS.WEST POINT, N. Y., *June 9, 1906.*

SIR: The committee on buildings and grounds has the honor to submit the following report:

BUILDINGS.

The plans for the new buildings and their location on the grounds have been wrought out with great care and labor by the combined wisdom and experience of two Secretaries of War and Gen. A. L. Mills, Superintendent of the Academy, assisted by the architects, and your committee does not deem it necessary to recommend any changes. The improvements are all necessary and in keeping with the importance of the Military Academy as an educator of young men to whom are to be intrusted the making of soldiers for the defense of a great nation.

Considering the formation of the grounds, different locations for the buildings could not well have been made. The buildings authorized to be constructed are progressing with the expected rapidity, excepting the cadet barracks, upon which work is much delayed. This is much to be regretted, as additional quarters for the cadets are much needed. The Superintendent is, however, taking vigorous means to accelerate the work.

The new officers' quarters are simple but effective in architecture, and interiorally are arranged very conveniently and with economy of space. The cavalry and artillery stables and artillery shed are sufficiently advanced in construction so that it can be predicted they will be of handsome appearance and well adapted for the uses contemplated.

The foundations for the power house, the administration buildings, and the cavalry and artillery barracks are being placed and are progressing favorably.

The conduit for steam-heating pipes and electric cables, which runs from the power house to the main buildings, is nearly completed, and when the steam plant and electric machinery are inaugurated the main buildings of the Academy will be well heated and all the buildings on the reservation be supplied with electric lights—results much to be desired.

The customary duties of quartermaster at this post are the charge of the buildings and grounds, gas works, etc. These duties Maj. J. M. Carson, jr., efficiently performs, and, in addition, he has charge of construction of the new buildings, the building of roads, etc., a duty requiring hard work and ability.

The Superintendent believes that the appropriations already made and expected to be made at this session of Congress will be ample to complete the work to be done.

All the old buildings are in good condition and show intelligent care.

The members of the committee unanimously and urgently recommend that no building may ever be erected near the site of the present hotel whose west wall shall be farther west than the present wall of the said hotel, to the end that none of the exceptionally beautiful view of the Hudson River as seen from the plain of West Point shall be obscured.

The grounds are in their usual good condition, except where they are necessarily disturbed by building operations.

WATER SUPPLY.

The committee visited the source of water supply, 7 miles distant, and the line of pipe which runs over hills and thru valleys and lies largely in rock. The intake is simple, the natural flow of water, even when at the minimum, being more than double the quantity that will pass thru the 20-inch pipe which forms the conduit of about 6 miles in length. No storage reservoir is necessary. It would seem that every precaution has been taken to deliver to the reservoir at the post an uninterrupted and abundant supply of water for all time to come. The water is pure and potable, but, as an additional precaution, will be filtered near the reservoir the same as the present supply. The work is expected to be completed in about four months. It has been from the beginning in charge of Maj. M. M. Patrick, U. S. Corps of Engineers, an able and energetic officer.

Very respectfully,

URBAN A. WOODBURY.
E. S. HOLLIDAY.
CHAS. F. HOMER.

Gen. HORACE PORTER,
President Board of Visitors.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON INSTRUCTION, DISCIPLINE, AND HYGIENE.

WEST POINT, N. Y., *June 9, 1906.*

SIR: The committee designated by you to report upon the various details pertaining to instruction, discipline, and hygiene respectfully submit the following:

We have given due consideration to the several matters intrusted to our attention, and, after very thoro inquiry and observation, it is a pleasure to report that we find conditions highly satisfactory in all departments.

The system of instruction in operation in each of the academic departments seems to be all that could be desired, and the progress made by students in the various schools has been all that could reasonably be expected.

The practise of hazing new cadets, at one time prevalent among the older students of the Academy, has been effectually stamped out, and we have been informed that no instance of real hazing has come to the attention of the Academy authorities during the last three years or since effective measures were employed for its abolition. This excellent state of discipline could only have resulted from the hearty cooperation of the student body when once it had brought to its attention the fact that the hazing practise, as carried on, was seriously impairing the usefulness of the institution. The esprit de corps and high code of honor prevalent in the cadet ranks were never more satisfactory than at the present time, and that hazing no longer exists here must be very largely attributed to this gratifying status among the students themselves.

ATHLETICS.

Athletics at the Academy have attained a very high degree of excellence, and the wisdom of the authorities in so amending the rule as to require gymnasium work of cadets in all classes has already been demonstrated after only a year's trial and will be further confirmed with each recurring session. The determination of the authorities from the very beginning, not to allow athletics to encroach upon regular academic work, is wise and insures to the students all the benefits that result from pure and wholesome exercises, while at the same time avoiding all the evil consequences that too often result in institutions where athletics are accorded excessive prominence.

FINAL EXAMINATIONS.

An additional year's trial has further demonstrated the wisdom of exempting from final examinations those students who have proven proficient in class work thruout the academic session, and the practise has given such satisfaction as to warrant the prediction that it is now a permanent method of providing for examinations at the Academy.

HOSPITAL SERVICE.

The early completion of the new water-supply system and the perfection of the drainage system on the reservation will soon satisfactorily have settled the water problem for years to come.

The health conditions prevailing are improving steadily year by year, and the number of students whom it is found necessary to place in the hospital has been reduced about 300 during the past session, as compared with the number placed there during the session of 1905. This speaks eloquently for improved hygienic conditions.

The hospital was visited by the committee of the Board on June 6. It was found to be a well-equipped modern hospital and up to modern sanitary requirements. It consists of a main building and a north

and south wing. The repairs recommended by the visiting committee in 1904 have been practically completed; the basement has been rearranged and divided up in the most convenient manner, and the lavatories have been supplied with the latest sanitary appliances. Scrupulous cleanliness was noted everywhere. The interior of the building, where needed, has been repainted. A dark room has been fitted up with an X-ray apparatus of rare efficiency, and it is in almost daily use. The capacity of the hospital is at present ample for the size of the corps of cadets, only a portion of one of the four equipped wards being in use when the committee made its visit. There are four wards, each fitted for twelve beds; rarely more than two are in [use] at one time. At present there are three sick in the hospital. Thruout the past year, on account of the sanitary condition of the reservation, the sick report has decreased very much, and malaria, one of the diseases which formerly afflicted the cadets, has been almost entirely stamped out.

The small contagion hospital, located in the rear of the cadet hospital, has been fitted out and equipped in the last year; fortunately it has not as yet been used.

The committee desires to renew the recommendation that suitable fire escapes and standpipes be attached to the hospital buildings; also, that an electric elevator, large enough to carry a patient on a litter, be placed in the center of the hospital, in the shaft which was placed there for that purpose. We are sure that these improvements are urgently needed for the safety and comfort of the patients.

The committee deems it proper to call attention to the frequent changes that have occurred in the head of the hospital department in recent years. We have been reliably informed that there have been no less than nine details for this position in the past eight years. Notwithstanding such brief details in the position of senior surgeon and his assistants, the results obtained have been very successful; but there can be no doubt that even better results would accrue from longer terms of service. It would seem that a four-year detail for the chief surgeon would be highly desirable, and the committee expresses the hope that satisfactory arrangements may be made for carrying into effect such a change.

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS.

Your committee invites attention to the several recommendations of Brig. Gen. A. L. Mills, Superintendent of the Academy, enumerated below, and trusts that the War Department may deem it proper to take such steps as will insure their enactment into law. Your committee has carefully examined each of these recommendations and gives to them its hearty concurrence.

The reasons influencing the proposed changes are fully set forth in

the aforesaid communications of the Superintendent, which, properly marked, are appended as a part of this report. A repetition of the arguments offered by him in their support would seem superfluous here. The recommendations are as follows:

First. That civilian teachers be employed at the school for children which is maintained at West Point (see letter of General Mills, also communication of Orange County board of supervisors, marked "Appendix B").

Second. That all instructors in the Military Academy be made members of the detailed staff; appointments of instructors causing vacancies in the branches of the service at large to be filled by the regular order of promotion, the same as in details to the staff departments at the present time (see letter from General Mills, marked "Appendix C").

Third. (a) That the instructor of ordnance and gunnery be placed on a like footing with the heads of other academic departments with respect to rank and pay; and (b) that the head of the department of military hygiene be given the title of professor, with the rank and pay of lieutenant-colonel (see letter of General Mills, marked "Appendix D").

Fourth. (a) That a separate department of English and history be established at the Academy, in lieu of the present method of handling these subjects, and that the head of the proposed new department be given the title of professor and made a member of the academic board (see letter of General Mills, marked "Appendix E"); and (b) that the department of practical military engineering, as a separate department, be abolished and the administration of these affairs be placed under the direction of the commandant of cadets in the department of tactics (same reference).

Fifth. That the course in conversational Spanish now given in the third class be transferred to the first class.

It is believed that this change will insure greater practical results, in that cadets will leave the Academy with a better vocabulary in the language than could possibly result under the present system, where two years elapse after the course is offered before the date of graduation. The proposed change, it is believed, would result in increased efficiency to the service in all cases where young officers are detailed for duty at posts where a knowledge of this language is necessary.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. A. PERSONS.
ADNA R. CHAFFEE.
S. W. SMITH.
A. A. WILEY.

Gen. HORACE PORTER,
President of the Board of Visitors.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ARMAMENT AND EQUIPMENT.

WEST POINT, N. Y., *June 9, 1906.*

SIR: Your committee on armament and equipment has the honor to submit the following report:

ARMAMENT.

The cadets are armed with the United States magazine rifle, model of 1903, but having the ramrod bayonet. The latest pattern issued to the Army is provided with the knife bayonet, and it is recommended that the corps of cadets be supplied with the latest pattern of rifle and the latest model of sight.

The field equipment of the corps of cadets is that carried by the regular soldier, and is in good condition.

The cadets receive instruction at the hands of the tactical department in the use of the following weapons, including actual firing, viz: Colt revolver, caliber .38; two Gatling guns, caliber .30; one Colt automatic machine gun, caliber .30; four Vickers-Maxim mountain guns, 75 millimeters; four 3-inch field rifles, model of 1902; subcaliber tube, 1-pounder, in 8-inch seacoast rifle.

Instruction in the service of the following pieces is also given. These pieces are not fired: Six 7-inch mortars, four 5-inch siege rifles, two 7-inch siege howitzers, one 8-inch rifle, one 12-inch mortar.

The following instruments are in use in the position-finding system: One Swazey depression position finder, Type A; 1 azimuth instrument; 1 Whistler-Hearn plotting board; 1 Pratt ballistic board; 1 deflection board; 6 telephones, with lines.

This material is all in good condition.

STABLES AND EQUIPMENT.

Your committee visited the cavalry and artillery stables and inspected the horses and equipment at both places.

The horses of the artillery are very suitable for the service required of them and are in splendid condition. The number is insufficient, but it is assumed that an adequate number will be supplied as soon as the new artillery stables are completed.

At the inspection of the battery on the cavalry plain new harness of the latest pattern was used. It was in fine order.

The harness in evidence at the stables, apparently for daily use, can not be commended for cleanliness or general care of leather parts.

Many of the cavalry horses are not a good type for that service, and it is recommended that greater care be exercised in the future than appears to have been practised in the past to secure, first, an excellent type of cavalry horse for use at this post, and, second, to adhere to that type as remounts are required.

The saddles and equipment were not in good condition. They were dirty, some worn to the extent of needing the action of an inspecting officer with a view to condemnation and return to the arsenal for repairs.

It is impossible with the present strength of the cavalry detachment to properly groom the number of horses on hand, 150, and also properly care for the horse equipment. It is apparent to the committee that the horses do not receive sufficient grooming. When your committee visited the artillery stables on the afternoon of the 7th and during grooming hour, there were but 19 men to groom and care for 48 horses. At the cavalry stables, where there are 150 animals to care for, there were 33 men. Upon examination into the duties of the other men of the cavalry detachment and artillery detachment, it was found that the men were necessarily employed upon duties which detached them from stable duty.

The location of the new stable under construction is about three-fourths of a mile from the riding hall. It will be necessary that horses be saddled at the stable and conducted to the riding hall. This will occupy a very considerable part of the time of a considerable detachment of men, and while so employed it is apparent that these men can give no attention to the care, grooming, and feeding of horses and the care of the equipment.

It therefore seems necessary, and your committee recommends, that grooms to the number of 20 and men to the number of 8 be employed for special service of grooming and saddling of horses and the care of the equipment.

GYMNASIUM.

The equipment of the gymnasium was found to be in a satisfactory condition.

BARRACKS AND MESS HALL.

The barracks and mess hall were also satisfactory and in good condition.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ADNA R. CHAFFEE.

A. A. WILEY.

CHAS. F. HOMER.

Gen. HORACE PORTER,

President of the Board of Visitors, 1906.

