

WHAT MILITARY TRAINING DID FOR KNOX

Students' Army Training Corps Came, Conquered and Departed—Actual Results Good—Alumni May be Proud of Their Alma Mater's Record

By DEAN SIMONDS

THE Students' Army Training Corps at Knox College has had its day and the unit has been mustered out. Its advent was greeted with enthusiasm and its career has been watched with pride.

What shall we say now of the advantages secured by its establishment and of its influence on student life? Briefly answered, the actual results have been good. In the

this unusual opportunity. In consequence there were more applications for entrance than ever before. The standard of admission was not lowered, many were rejected; yet the enrollment was the largest in the history of the college.

The first notable effect was that on the morale of the student body. The boys entered upon their new experience with zest.



A GLIMPSE OF THE KNOX BATTLE-FIELD

first place the announcement that Knox would have a unit of the S. A. T. C. brought boys into college with a rush. Underclassmen who had been intent on enlistment, made up their minds that college was the best place for them and came back satisfied; other young men who had not thought of entering college before the government announced its plans were also attracted by

We have never seen a more contented or better-spirited lot of men in Knox. The restlessness and impatience which characterized the college student of military age a year ago, completely disappeared. These men had enlisted, they were in the service and under orders here—and they were happy. This phase of the situation,—this satisfaction in the conscious fulfillment of their

fine patriotic impulse, must not be overlooked.

The college was particularly fortunate in the personality of the commandant detailed to organize the unit—Captain Philip Brown. He thoroughly understood the nature of his task and also the nature and spirit of college boys. Discipline was strict, the work clearly outlined, system was established, and the boys went to the duties of military life with a will.

The physical results were soon apparent. There was immediate improvement in bearing and physique. This has continued. There were cases of influenza, and, unhappily, one death occurred; but at the mustering out nearly every man showed a marked development in weight and strength. Regularity of hours,—reveille at 6:10, drill from 7 to 9, classes, 9 to 12, and 1:30 to 4:30, study hours, 7:30 to 9:30, and taps at 10,—has been required by military authority, and any laxity has been corrected by military discipline. The picturesque phase of this establishment—the khaki-clad groups striding about the campus, the long line of two hundred men marching in formation to chapel daily, the impressive ceremony of “retreat” at sunset, the bugle call, the remarkably well-trained band, with the drum-major doing wonderful “stunts” with his baton,—these are features which have become familiar and welcome incidents in our college life.

More important, perhaps, is the noticeable growth of the very desirable democratic

spirit in the student body. The men have lived together, sleeping in barracks and eating at mess, associating not in cliques but in the mass, they have been thrown into new relations with one another. They have become acquainted. Fraternity lines have hardly been drawn. The uniform has done much in eliminating artificial distinctions of caste and class.

These are some of the benefits which have followed the establishment of the S. A. T. C. at Knox. To be sure there have been breaks in the adjustment of military duties to academic schedules, more or less interruption in the attendance on class-room exercises; but had the arrangement continued longer a more satisfactory routine would have become established. Under the somewhat different regulations of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps, which will be organized by the beginning of the second semester, we feel confident that this problem will be solved.

In spite of the various embarrassments that have occurred in this first quarter of the year, such as attend the first stages of any experiment on a large scale, and the final elimination of the possible promotion and participation in actual service abroad, the college is heartily glad of the experience.

Every alumnus may well feel proud of the response of Knox undergraduates to the patriotic appeal of the emergency now happily past.

FIRST IN AMERICA FOR THE RED CROSS

Knox College Wins Distinction as Leader of All Institutions in Patriotism—100 Per Cent for Red Cross—War Fund is Oversubscribed.

FIRST in America stands Knox College for the American Red Cross. Every student and faculty member of Knox has joined the Red Cross and they joined it so quickly this Christmas that the College was the very first in the United States to be 100 per cent. In the great Red Cross membership campaign a year ago, Knox also received the honor of being first in America

among the colleges and universities. Telegrams congratulating the College have come from state and national headquarters of the Red Cross.

The 1918 campaign at Knox was managed by the Student Council.

Although the S. A. T. C. leaves Knox this month, the “Y.” hut will continue to be a