

REPORT OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS

on the

SUMMER MILITARY INSTRUCTION CAMPS FOR STUDENTS

November 17, 1915.

These camps have now been in operation for three successive summers. In their growth and admirable management during the past two summers of 1914 and 1915, they have more than fulfilled the expectations of those endorsing them, based on the first year's experience in the summer 1913. The camps of 1913 and 1914 were held before the breaking out of the great war abroad, which has brought into greater prominence than before their value to the nation.

We repeat the hearty endorsement given in our reports on the camps held in 1913 and 1914. This year they were visited by a number of the members of our committee, and the committee as a whole has given attention and thought to their educational usefulness in the summer season.

The students attending are under careful oversight. The excellence of food, sanitation, and medical care, has been well maintained. The students have an ideal five weeks' outing, pleasurable and beneficial to them; and the instruction, drill, cavalry exercises, field manoeuvres, field surveying and field work generally give them in the continuous five weeks' training, an insight into military matters. They are, in addition to this regular work, given ample time for recreation and rest.

We commend the camps to the authorities and students of the universities and colleges of the country. We believe that the training and instruction which the students attending receive not only emphasize the dangers and losses of wars lightly and unpreparedly entered into, but we also believe that the training given is excellent, and a great benefit, mental and physical, to the students attending.

President John G. Hibben, Chairman,  
Princeton University.  
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President Henry Sturgis Drinker, Lehigh University, *Secretary*.

MILITARY TRAINING CAMPS

EASTERN DEPARTMENT, U. S. ARMY

NORTHERN SECTION

PLATTSBURG, N. Y.

First Camp Senior Division, June 5-July 2  
Second Camp Junior Division, July 5-Aug. 8  
Third Camp Senior Division, July 12-Aug. 8  
Fourth Camp Senior Division, Aug. 10-Sept. 6

SOUTHERN SECTION

FORT OGLETHORPE, GA., (CHATTANOOGA)

First Camp Senior Division, April 3-30  
Second Camp Senior Division, May 3-30  
Third Camp Senior Division, June 3-30  
Fourth Camp Junior Division, July 5-Aug. 8

The Junior Division comprises undergraduates in colleges, universities and those students in public and private schools who have reached a grade equivalent to Senior Class, High School.\*

The Senior Division comprises graduates of colleges and universities, and other citizens between the ages of 21 and 45 who have received an equivalent education.\*

\*Detailed information as to camps is contained in the bulletins issued from Headquarters Eastern Department and may be obtained by application to "The Officer in Charge" Military Training Camps, Governors Island, N. Y., indicating which section you wish to attend, i. e.—Northern or Southern. The same methods obtain in both camps but dates and other details may differ.

HEADQUARTERS EASTERN DEPARTMENT

GOVERNORS ISLAND, NEW YORK CITY

January 17, 1916.

Dear Sir:

You will find herewith a bulletin containing full information in regard to a military training camp to be held in your section of the country with the hope that you will be interested in this subject.

You will note, first, that applicants are desired principally from those who have had college, university, high school (or corresponding school) education. Non-graduates are not excluded but each case will be decided on its merits with a view to maintaining a level in the progressive scheme of development. The training given at these camps is very intensive, covering in a period of four weeks as much as possible of the fundamental education of an officer. This calls for a well trained mind. In the second place, past experience has shown that this class of young men is the first to join the colors in time of war and many of them regardless of their skill in military matters receive commissions. This has been the procedure in times past. It is right and necessary that these young men should be fully informed as to the tremendous responsibility which will come to them with the command of men and the irreparable loss which may be caused by unskilled leadership.

Furthermore, as citizens of military age and as members of the unorganized militia under the constitution, it is necessary for the intelligent discharge of their military obligations that they should be as well informed as possible on these matters. The President has said in a recent message: \* \* \* "It will be right enough, right American policy, based upon our accustomed principles and practices, to provide a system by which every citizen who will volunteer for the training may be made familiar with the use of modern arms, the rudiments of drill and maneuver, and the maintenance and sanitation of camps. We should encourage such training and make it a means of discipline which our young men will learn to value." \* \* \*