SOONER

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College Training for War

Many O. U. alumni this month will be called on to counsel high school seniors about the future. Should the youngster finishing high school this spring go to college, or should he seek immediate action by enlisting in military service or

going into war industry?

The wise counsel of mature men able to look at all sides of the question will be needed in many cases to offset the natural eagerness of youth for quick action. The alumnus can point out that it would be foolish to urge every high school senior to go to college in wartime, just as it would be foolish to do so in peace time. Then he can go on to explain that it is also true that the nation badly needs educated leadership and well trained technicians in wartime just as in peace time.

This is not just the personal opinion of college graduates wanting to glorify a college education as a fine thing for everyone. It is a thesis well supported by the heads of the nation's selective service system, and by the heads of the nation's

armed forces.

Draft deferments are granted to students of draft age who are taking certain subjects vital to the war effort, such as medicine, chemistry, physics, and many branches of engineering. Under various specified conditions, students may actually enlist in some branches of service and remain in college to complete work in certain subject fields of vital importance to those services.

In addition to offering numerous courses of importance to men going into the armed services later, the University also gives direct training for services through the R.O.T.C., the Naval R.O.T.C., and the Civilian Pilot Training

program.

Any alumnus is perfectly justified in urging a high school senior to investigate carefully the ways in which the University of Oklahoma might prepare him to be of far greater service to the nation than he would be as a simple unit of manpower untrained for any specific task.

Anchors Aweigh on the Canadian

For some 23 years, Norman and the University have been getting acquainted with the Army through the R.O.T.C. and its staff of Regular Army officers. The *Caisson Song*, floating over the dusty drill field and into Norman homes, is a familiar refrain. We have got pretty well acquainted with the Army, and found

them good folks to have around.

Now the Navy is moving into Norman. Over a year ago, the Naval R.O.T.C. was established, bringing handsome blue uniforms and gold braid onto the campus. Last month Navy representatives took over the University's Flying Field and started actual work on the huge naval training base expected to cost \$7,000,000. Norman and the University are preparing to give the Navy a fine welcome and full co-operation, though it's probably going to take us a little while to get used to hearing the band play *Anchors Aweigh* within sight of the dusty riverbed of the Canadian!

The Cover

Four stripes adorn the sleeves of the commandant of the Naval R.O.T.C. unit at the University, Capt. John F. Donelson. He succeeded Commander James C. Van de Carr, who was called to active duty.

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- ►We had so much personal news about alumni, and items about Sooners in military service, for this issue of the *Magazine* that your distracted editor found no way to make room for his usual Clearing the Desk feature. Anyway, the desk never got cleared!
- ▶We have been conferring with Executive Secretary Ted Beaird about ways to adapt this publication to war conditions, with the aim of conserving materials and still fulfilling basic obligations to our readers. Next month month you will see some changes in the *Magazine*. It will be more condensed. There will be less white space. The cover will be more standardized. There will be fewer—if any—full page feature articles. Illustrations will be simplified. In brief, we will become a streamlined, strictly news magazine. We'll try to use editorial ingenuity to keep the *Magazine* readable, interesting.

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