



Gratia A. Countryman and Family Papers.

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①
President Morgan of Antioch College
says "The battle for war or
peace is being fought out
today, in our schools and colleges"
Here are the young people who
have grown up since the
war. who remember nothing
of its bitterness. They are
to be our leaders of thought
in a few years, and whether they
are military minded or peace
and internationally minded is of
the greatest consequence to our
civilization. It is perfectly
natural that our war machine
should keep its clutches on our
young people and surround them
with the romance and glamour
of military trappings, supply

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fire officers, paratroopers & while they are in college in the shape of Compulsory military training. It is equally natural that we who believe that the Kellogg pact meant what we signed, should oppose a course designed ~~to~~ to oppose it. — I must oppose a compulsory system to militarize our youth.

Our own University has Compulsory Training. It was thought that all land grant colleges must have compulsory courses. We now have 2900 students under drill and 21 officers of the regular army as instructors.

~~Of all states in the Union~~
~~None~~ But there has been a ruling on the subject by the

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Attorney General to the effect
that law grade colleges ^{must}
give election military drill, ^{but}
are not obliged to give
compulsory drill. The Board
of Regents are at perfect
liberty to change the curriculum
from compulsory to election military
training.

Michigan and Wisconsin have
made the change. Iowa is
going through a legislative
struggle to make the change.
Here of all States, in which
lives the great Statesman who
successfully concluded the Kellogg
Pact, should not the issue be
faced - Shall we have
compulsory or optional courses
Shall we conscript the best
youth of our country, those in
higher educational institutions

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or leave them free to elect
that course, as they elect nearly
~~practically~~ every other course
in the college.

The issue is very clear cut
and straight forward

But there is another plan
known as the Freeman plan
which is forced upon our
attention. This plan has
been published in two
different educational journals.
It has been laid before the
Presidents of the last great
colleges, it has been laid
before the War Department,
and its discussion is now
before a joint committee
of our faculty and the War
Dept. ~~It is therefore an~~
~~This plan is not a statute~~

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It has originated in our own University, had the thoughtful consideration of our Presidents, and been given national publicity. We are therefore at liberty to examine it.

The plan claims that military drill has not sufficient educational merits that it is poor military preparedness. That technicians are the backbone of modern warfare.

He therefore proposes that the various technical fields of the University should offer courses with especial emphasis upon their military uses and values. A course in Chemistry known as military chemistry

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the same ⁽⁶⁾ - ~~in~~ other departments
as military engineering, military
forestry, ~~some 90 subjects in~~
~~all~~ - That these courses would
presumably be under instructors
appointed by the War Department
or such agency as it approves
and with the financial aid
of the War Dept. That
civilian teachers should point
out the military value and use
of their work, in history, economics,
medicine, ~~some 90 subjects~~
in all.

A short time ago, Dean
Kelly of our University, published
a very vigorous protest against
anything that seemed like
interference by outside bodies
with institutional administration

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And it has long been an
American tradition & practice
that neither private agencies
for propaganda, nor public
agencies, the Church and State
should interfere with Educational
policies. That Academic
freedom was a necessary
principle.

This plan would permit
the War Department to
participate by officers and
money in our civil education.

It would dangerously encroach
upon Academic freedom, especially
if courses remained compulsory as
the military training now is.

~~Such labelled courses throughout
the University, it would
blend with the military
label~~

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with labeled courses throughout
the University, designed for
specific war objectives, ~~these~~
the militaristic idea would
permeate the college and
promote the idea of preparedness
for war, not ~~the~~ preparedness
for peaceful world citizenship.

The plan is based upon
the premise that the colleges
and military forces together
must build a new system
of preparedness within which
higher education can take
its place.

We agree with this
premise.

We believe that schools
and colleges should plan

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Airist and finance their
technical training entirely on
a civil basis, and with a
view to peace time service
and not with an eye on
future wars.

When we consider the
penetration of the University
by the War Department as an
insidious proposal, we believe
that we are in line with
patriotism and that we are
consistent with the efforts of
Pres Hoover, and the State
Department to outlaw war
to reduce armaments, to cut
down military expenditures —

~~but~~ Pres Hoover and
Ramsay MacDonald formerly

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Announced that

"In signing the Paris peace pact, 56 nations have agreed that all disputes shall be settled by peaceful means."

Both our government resolve to accept the peace pact not only as a declaration of good intentions, but as a positive obligation to direct national policy in accordance with its pledge."

Surely courses in college, in a world that has legally renounced war, should not be planned with a view to fighting efficiently ~~and in a country that has promised a national policy in accordance with the Kellogg pact.~~

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We again repeat with more
 concern and more earnest
 attention to the truth of the
statement, "that the battle for
 war or peace is being fought
 out today in our schools &
 colleges." And our Minister
 concern is with our own
 University.

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