Dartmouth during World War I
Historical Context

- WWI started in 1914
- The United States entered the War on April 6, 1917
- During this time, the war effort in the US increased
- More military training, weapon construction, etc.
1918: A Typical Day at Dartmouth

Letters from Clifford Orr to his parents
Our schedule consists of mainly drill. There are to be no classes yet.
Here is the daily routine:

6:30 Rise
6:50 Formation
7:00 Mess
7:50 Formation for drill
8:00 Drill begins
11:30 " ends
12:50 Formation
1:00 Mess
1:50 Formation for drill
2:00 Drill begins
4:30 " ends
5:40 Formation & Evening Parade & Retreat
6:50 Formation
7:00 Mess
9:45 Call to quarters
10:00 Taps - lights out.

I have drawn a line at indicate when I have a few minutes to myself.
9/27/48

35 K query
Narrows
W. N.
Friday

Dear Martha:

You needn't worry any more, because I'm all right now. The doctor let me get to classes today, and I am feeling almost as well as usual. I still am pretty stuffed up, but coming fine. I surely was lucky not to have been worse. Some fellows who were taken sick before I was are still in bed, and liable to be for some time. I was only in bed from Monday afternoon to Thursday noon, while several right in the same dorm have been there a week. One freshman has died, and I don't know how many soldiers. Chapel has been cut out, the movies closed, and Dartmouth Night, which was to be held next Monday to celebrate the college's 150th birthday, has been
"War Games" & Trenches
DARTMOUTH TO FORM STUDENT MILITIA CORPS

First College to Request Direct Aid From the Government.

Hanover, N. H., Dec. 1.—That Dartmouth believes in preparedness is shown by the plan to form a student corps which will be part of the reserve army of the United States that was announced today. L. H. Bell, '16, of Newtonville, Mass.; G. R. Page, '17, of Perry, N. Y., and W. F. Palmer of Paducah, Ky., constituting the Dartmouth preparedness committee, returned yesterday from Washington, where they interviewed Secretary of War Garrison, who highly approved of their plan. He said that Dartmouth is the first college in the country to ask the government and for direct aid.

Secretary Garrison referred the committee to Capt. Schindel, of the war college, chairman of the committee to take charge of military training at land grant colleges. Capt. Schindel was highly pleased with the plans, but as Dartmouth is not a land grant college, he made a special offer to furnish arms, equipment, munitions and required army officer for instruction. A non-commissioned officer will also be furnished for drilling practice.
“Somewhere” in the United States
1100 SECRETARIES 200 BUILDINGS

must be provided to serve 1,000,000 enlisted men in the
United States during the remainder of the year 1917, at a
cost of $3.00 per man, or a total cost of $3,000,000 for
1,000,000 men.

This means $500,000 from New England
$25,000 from New Hampshire

Newport has pledged - - $2500
Keene has pledged - - 2500
Concord has pledged - - 4000
Hanover will pledge - - ?

THE MEN OF HANOVER
are called upon to
“DO THEIR BIT”

Send yours to A. D. Storrs, Treasurer

SOME MUST GO ALL CAN GIVE
1095 IN DRILL
AT DARTMOUTH

HANOVER, N. H., April 19—Military drill at Dartmouth today called out 1095 men, showing an increase of about 500 over Monday's listing. The regiment has been divided into three battalions. The first, composed of companies A, B, and D, is under the direction of Maj. Harry L. Stillman; the second company, C, F, G, and H, under the direction of Maj. H. G. Fender, and third companies I, K, L, and M, under Maj. C. M. Stearns.

A. H. Goegins '18 of Allston has been appointed regimental adjutant to aid Capt. Chase, colonel of the regiment, and C. H. Sargent '20 of Dorchester, A. F. Johnson '18 of Sioux City, Iowa, and W. B. Sturtevant '17 of Springfield are adjutants of the respective battalions.

Capt. Chase, when asked concerning the work of the regiment, said: "So far it has been going along very satisfactorily and has even exceeded my expectations, both in numbers and the spirit with which the men are taking hold. The only points that I can emphasize at the present time are promptness and personal conduct."

There are 125 persons, comprising faculty members and town people, in a company, which is drilling three nights during the week in the alumni gymnasium, under the direction of Capt. Chase.

The Dartmouth College faculty committee on food supply, governed by the committee on national defense, has taken its first definite step by making plans for the cultivation of a 10-acre field of potatoes this summer by a score of the members, each man to hoe one-half an acre. The work will be under the general direction of Prof. C. F. Clark and the proceeds will be given to some relief organization not yet decided upon.

A second plan which was discussed and will be put into immediate operation was increasing the land under cultivation in Hanover by active co-operation with the farmers. In an effort to overcome the great shortage of labor plans are under way to co-operate with the Y. M. C. A. employment bureau and the suggestion has already been made that this work be substituted for drill for those who desire it. It is probable that the men doing the work will be allowed to drop a three-hour course the same as F or drill.
Students Dug Trenches Behind Gym

Mud, Barbed-Wire Fence Made Local "Front" Realistic

by E. C. Stevens, Jr.

(Editor's Note: This is the second of a series of two articles on campus life at Dartmouth during the First World War.)

Before war actually was declared by Congress in April of 1917, the conflict in Europe had received very little attention from the student body. Those who were here both then and now recall that the apathy on the part of the undergraduates in 1917 was greater than during the present crisis.

Dartmouth had taken first steps to organize a college regiment late in March, 1917, but this was all a part of a national preparedness program. The time devoted to military drill was to be no more than that given to any other course.

The declaration of war changed all that. Students came back from spring vacation eager to participate in the Dartmouth regiment. Although the military course was voluntary, it could be taken in place of some other subject and was to count towards a degree. Nearly 1,100 students greeted Captain Porter, who had been sent by the army from Boston to drill the men.

Of those who were too impatient to bother with drilling on the Dartmouth campus, 160 left immediately for the various branches of the army and navy, with 109 alone selecting the coastal patrol.

Mosquito boats were the vogue of the time, since most Dartmouth students at the time believed that the United States would only play a naval role in the war.

Late in April a recruiting agent showed some films in the Nugget, and considerable enthusiasm was aroused in the American Ambulance unit.

For those who participated in the Dartmouth regiment, the work mostly of clay, was excellent material to work with, it held the water from the heavy rains of late which made it necessary for the sides of the trenches to be revetted. A number of different kinds of revetments were used, among them: corrugated iron, boards, sand bags, fascines, and chicken wire.

"In an attempt to reproduce as nearly as possible the type of trenches in use at the present time at the various battlefronts barbed wire entanglements, French aprons, wire spheres, trip wires, and knife rests were constructed, and put into place. As much as the actual material as possible was cut from the woods nearby and included brush, brush poles, and stakes. At one end of the trench area some old ruins were uncovered and one old cellar was converted into a redoubt, protected by burrough pits and stakes.

"Loopholes were left for machine guns and the whole was then shell proof and sodded over, use being made of the materials available.

"When near completion the trenches were filled with duck walks and fire-bases with fire-steps.

The heavy rains made the trenches a great deal more realistic, and the men found in hours of the week the practice in the gymnasium, bayonet drill was featured in these drills and the Dartmouth comments: "There is nothing the average soldier fears so much as "old steel," and the morale of a body of troops is materially increased by their confidence of superiority in the use of the bayonet."

Dartmouth could still think of intercollegiate rivalry during the fall of 1917 as the Daily remarked of the big game with Penn: "Even worse than the shortage of sugar is the condition of the Dartmouth supporters coming from the Hub after witness the first defeat of the Green at the hands of Penn in 20 years on Braves Field."

The Dartmouth in December of 1917 had to dispel a rumor that college might close because of lack of coal. Shortly thereafter the basketball team left for its annual Christmas trip, losing eight consecutive games.

Carnival plans were announced and as a war measure more emphasis was to be laid on the outside than on the social side. Later, because of the acute ness of the coal and food situations, the DCC abandoned Carnival entirely. Still later, the trustees announced that the College would carry out a Palaeop plan of eliminating vacations and lengthening school term.
Marching to the Commons

At the Noon Hour

The Dartmouth College Training Detachment of the National Army
STUDENTS OF DARTMOUTH DRILLING ON THE COLLEGE ATHLETIC FIELD UNDER THE INSTRUCTION OF U. S. ARMY OFFICERS.
From: TIMES
address: New York City

Jun 17 1917

Students in the military unit of Dartmouth College running great trench seams through the college grounds as a part of Dartmouth's daily war games.

[Image of a black and white photograph showing a group of people working on a site.]
Preparedness in Trench Work is a Requirement of all Freshmen.
Dartmouth Military School?

- Credit toward a bachelor's degree will be granted to a member of the College who has been in military or naval service at least three months.
- No credit shall be allowed unless the student has been in service at least three months.
- Service credit of fifteen semester hours and twenty-eight points shall be given to all men who have been in service not less than three months and not more than nine.
- "The Trustees will be glad to consider special cases not falling precisely within the above general rules."
Dartmouth Alumni Magazine:
Is education worth maintaining in Wartime?

Answer:

“A number of the faculty have gone into government service, or have accepted positions in other institutions. Their places are not being filled.”

“The various departments of instruction, too, are reducing their requirements and even the buying of books for the library, always too small, has been curtailed.”

How was the College financially supported during the war? Alumni, Dartmouth students who are overseas, and their parents...
IS EDUCATION WORTH MAINTAINING IN WAR TIME?

WHAT THE WORLD-WAR HAS DONE TO DARTMOUTH AND HOW THE SITUATION IS BEING MET

Part of an Editorial in The Dartmouth Alumni Magazine, April 1918.

Two things are at stake now: the immediate progress of the College, and its justification for being. If it can not justify itself, its immediate progress is of no particular consequence.

The general situation is just about this: The student body, normally 1500 strong, has shrunk to 850. In consequence, five dormitories are closed with a resultant reduction in annual net income of $20,000. The reduction in tuition fees will prove to be close to $70,000. Other reductions will bring the College revenues a total loss of close to $100,000. This the trustees faced last June as the probable deficit for the coming year. They accepted it as the alternative to such disorganization of the teaching and administrative force as would threaten the usefulness of Dartmouth for years to come.

There has been some query as to whether the College has been practising economies calculated to offset the losses in income. If there had been previous extravagance, economy might more easily now be featured. Yet measures taken will save close to $40,000 of the $100,000 loss. A number of the faculty have gone into government service, or have accepted positions in other institutions. Their places are not being filled. The men who remain are doing their work.

Maintenance is being kept at a minimum cost despite increasing prices. A coal bill, normally $25,000, will, this year, amount to $40,000. Other increases may be offset in part by
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