

PSYCHOLOGY

# Military Training in College Fails to Change Attitudes

## Upper Classmen Registering for Advanced Military Courses As Opposed to War as Classmates Who Do Not Volunteer

*This authoritative article is prepared by the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues especially for release through Science Service. It is one of a number of announcements of current research on war and propaganda.*

**M**ILITARY training does not make students war-minded, it is revealed by a three-year study of the attitudes of 587 college students toward war. Dr. George J. Dudycha, professor at Ripon College, concludes from his survey that compulsory military training for college men apparently has little effect on their attitudes either toward or against war.

Moderately or strongly opposed to war are the majority of students whose attitudes were measured by Dr. Dudycha. Only a few, 5.6%, were moderately favorable and none were strongly favorable toward war. Women tended to be more opposed to war than men, but they seem to become somewhat less opposed as they pass through four years of college.

Those junior and senior men who voluntarily elected to pursue the advanced courses in military science continued, for the most part, to be moderately or strongly opposed to war. When these men taking advanced work in military science were compared with those who did not continue this course, little difference between the two groups was discovered. There were only approximately 5% more men opposed to war among those not continuing courses in military science than among those who did. In general, this study indicates that those men who take four years of military

science in college do not materially change their attitude toward war and that those who do not take advanced military science become slightly more opposed to war as they pass through college.

"These results," Dr. Dudycha observes, "probably are unsatisfactory to both militarists and pacifists. People who favor compulsory military training often claim that knowledge of military training leads to an abhorrence of war. Those who are unalterably opposed to such training, on the other hand, argue that this knowledge leads students to be more war-minded. Neither point of view is supported by the results that have been obtained. Consequently the issue of compulsory military training in American colleges should be decided on other grounds than its supposed effect on students' attitudes toward war."

*Science News Letter, March 16, 1940*

ARCHAEOLOGY

## Was St. Patrick First Archaeologist in Ireland?

**S**AINT PATRICK, born about 389 A.D., was Ireland's first archaeologist. So it appears from a picturesque bit of digging recorded in his life story and all but forgotten by modern archaeologists.

Coming upon a huge grave 120 feet long, the saint had it opened, and then, the story goes, he did something that every archaeologist yearns to do; he brought the dead man to life temporarily and interviewed him, learning that the man's name was Cass, he was a king's swineherd, and was slain by soldiers 100 years before.

Leaving aside miraculous angles of the incident told by the biographer, what St. Patrick opened was evidently one of Ireland's Long Barrows, or mounds of earth which prehistoric folk were accustomed to heap over large graves.

In the tale, St. Patrick's concern with the race and antiquity of the mound's occupant was that of a missionary, bent

on baptizing any pagan. Still, if the saint did take any interest in a Long Barrow and its age, he belongs in Ireland's archaeological past.

Modern archaeologists are learning about Long Barrow makers by the hard, slow process of examining the mounds and each scrap of evidence inside. The people are revealed as an early migration wave into the British Isles, coming about 3500 B.C. from the continent, and bringing a Stone Age culture. When new immigrants who knew use of bronze arrived about 2100 B.C., the two groups blended.

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GENERAL SCIENCE

## Science Attaché Proposed For Embassy in London

**A** SCIENTIFIC attaché has been proposed as a permanent addition to the French embassy in London, to function for interchange of scientific ideas between the two countries very much as the military attaché already functions in collaboration for defense. The usefulness of such a scientific envoy would not cease with the ending of the present war, but would continue and be greatly augmented after the coming of peace.

An important group of French men of science, headed by Dr. Paul Langevin, distinguished physicist, professor at the Collège de France and Director of the Paris École de Physique et de Chimie, has just completed a visit of scientific laboratories in Cambridge and in London. A meeting of the Royal Society was specially arranged to enable the French visitors to take part in its deliberation and to confer upon Prof. Langevin the distinction of Foreign Member.

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