

cannot be made on demand by any system of training. However, the British editorial argues, Sir Lawrence Bragg's definition of a good physicist as "a man capable of independent thought, with a flair for his subject," has set the standard too high. Many of the tasks for which physicists are required can be very adequately performed by men and women less gifted.

There has been a very substantial increase in the size of the physics classes

in British universities and colleges. While this may not add materially to the numbers of "good physicists" it will add substantially to the numbers available for the more routine but no less important posts for which originality of a high order is not necessary. And this will enable the strictly limited number of men with a real flair for research to be assigned to the tasks which they alone can do.

Science News Letter, October 3, 1942

business as usual," said the Policy Commission's recommendations that brought forth this new plan for high school education. "High School youth are impelled by patriotic considerations to point their training to preparation for war work, to tasks requiring skill of hand and strength of body, coupled with intelligence and devotion."

Every student who will complete high school within two years will have the opportunity of enrolling in one of five divisions: Land Service, Air Service, Sea Service, Production Service, and Community Service.

Special insignia will be worn by the HSVC and each of its divisions. In general, uniforms will not be worn but there will be a special cap of overseas type that may be made at home.

The basic idea of the Victory Corps is the cutting down of the time needed to train men and women after they have enrolled in the armed forces and in war industries. Special pre-induction courses prepared in cooperation with the War Department will bulk large in America's new educational program.

Science News Letter, October 3, 1942

EDUCATION

Victory Corps Planned

Enlistment of 6,500,000 girls and boys in secondary schools for voluntary war service training is announced as a national war policy. No uniforms to be worn.

➤ A U. S. HIGH SCHOOL Victory Corps in every high school, enlisting 6,500,000 girls and boys volunteering for war service training, was announced in Washington as a national war policy.

Resulting from recommendations of the U. S. Office of Education's Wartime Commission, the new plan is being urged upon all secondary schools, private and public, by War Manpower Chairman Paul V. McNutt and Commissioner of Education John W. Studebaker, acting through state school systems.

Accelerated special training of youth for war service is the major objective of the High School Victory Corps. Active participation in the community's war effort is another aim.

There will be activities of the HSVC in classrooms and after school hours

as well in the nation's 28,000 high schools.

These are among the projected activities:

Guidance of youth into critical services and occupations.

Wartime citizenship training to insure better understanding of the war, its meaning, progress and problems.

Physical fitness.

Voluntary military drill for selected boys.

Competence in science and mathematics.

Pre-flight training in aeronautics for those preparing for air service.

Pre-induction training for critical occupations.

Community service including training for essential civilian activities.

"The high school can't go on doing

ASTRONOMY

Mexican Postage Stamps Have Astronomical Theme

By DR. HARLOW SHAPLEY, Director, Harvard College Observatory

➤ A LIMITED ISSUE of postage stamps portraying astronomical features was issued by Mexico in connection with the dedication of that nation's new astrophysical observatory at Tonanzintla in the State of Puebla this year.

Shown at the extreme left, in the illustration on this page, is the 2-centavo stamp. The dark nebulous cloud be-

