Letters to the Editor

VISITATION PROGRAM
Editor, The Tech

Dear Sir:

It is rather unfortunate that so many of the students here at Tech come on a visit and to "see" what the school is all about instead of a "how does it affect me" basis. I am referring in particular to freshmen's compulsory course under which only 584 persons have signed up to visit, write, or phone freshmen and transfer students during this summer. Men grown and individuals have not signed up because they intend to see new students to the limit of their ability. They miss the point entirely, in that Incon's program stresses coordination, and that a prime objective is to afford a means of avoiding duplication so that, as one new student is not visited by three men, while a new student nearby is visited by none.

Surveys taken at the Freshmen Welcome indicate that only 55% of the entering freshmen, for example, are enrolled in seven postgraduate levels. This not simple matter of revision, however, for the syllabus of the program is closely prescribed by the Army for all colleges in the country in whose possession the possibility of special interest or aptitude of the students in any one school. The ability to deal with what is, do we not anticipate that the courses will be improved to the point where they serve of particular value to the student of science or engineering.

It is certainly true that this nation must maintain the state of military preparedness demanded by the present international situation, and that we need a dependable supply of officer for our organized forces. The R.O.T.C. program exists in order to fill this need. The fruits of the program are the new officers, the future leaders of the military forces of the country. Hence a failure to live up to the standards of the program and to a professional capacity, to have better than 90% of the courses accredited.

To one interested in visiting new students, it usually does not matter which one he sees. But, it makes a difference if his efforts are for the sake of having students already contacted, when they could have been of real service to someone not yet contacted.

Incon's Coordinating committee offers a solution to the avoiding of duplication. I hope that those students who have not signed up do so at once, especially the commuters, who so do often, if they intend to contact new students this summer.

ROTC AGAIN

When we undertook a consideration of the R.O.T.C. here at Tech, the reality in this was May 5 and pointed out the gross inadequacy of the present compulsory courses to which virtually all freshmen and sophomores are subjected. We suggested that the first step in the direction of general improvement should be to change the stipulation of the Military Science program as it now exists here, and that a great part of the deficiency might be removed merely by bringing the subject material up to a level of our undersame.

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