

## The Naval-Training Unit

ON October tenth the men in the Naval-Training Unit went into barracks under orders of Captain Kannally. The house used for barracks had formerly belonged to the Delta Tau Delta fraternity. Everything had been removed, from furniture to curtain shades, and the "gobs" invaded it with a racket and noise that soon let the neighbors know that something was happening. Everyone was kept busy that day, fixing up his bunk (hammock, nautically speaking), mopping "decks," and running to the corner "store room" (that, is the drug store) to telephone the folks or otherwise.

When the time for "chow" came around, everyone was present (queer!). But who didn't relish that first meal after getting up at 5:45 A. M.? The ability to roll out at this time of the morning and not be late, was hard to acquire and some never did acquire it. After morning "chow," one hour of drill was indulged in. Then back to school until noon. After the noon "chow," school again, and at 3:40 P. M. the whistle blew for afternoon drill. Immediately after drill there was "Call to Colors" and then back to the good old "ship" to rest up before "chow." When this meal was over the men were at leisure until 7:00 o'clock when study call was sounded and they marched over to school. This lasted till 9:00 o'clock, when liberty of the "post" was granted until ten. "Taps" sounded at ten, and everyone had "rolled in."

However, the men had nothing to show that they were in the navy until their uniforms came, about two weeks later. From then on they were "gobs." What a pile of wearing apparel there was! Everything from the "flat-top" to the jack-knife. Every drawer and cupboard on the "ship" was utilized for putting away the extra new belongings such as "liberty blues," two suits of whites, socks, handkerchiefs, flat-top, sweater, watch-cap and what not. It was a "salty" crew that appeared the next morning at reveille, and a "saltier" bunch that went on liberty the following week-end. Everyone now "rated" a ride in an automobile to the loop.

When they came back on Sunday evening everyone was more contented and all had stories to tell about what they had "rated" over liberty. During the week they drilled without leggings, but the officers concluded that the drill was poor because of the wide trousers. So they were ordered to wear leggings the following morning. Goodbye solid comfort! It improved the drill, however.

On October 12th, just before going on liberty, the men received their first inoculation (shot). Two more were given, one the week after, and the other the week following the second. They not only had their medicinal benefits but they also served as an excuse for the well worn salute.

Things continued in the same routine until "peace day" came, November 11th, the day that shall never be forgotten. Both the S. A. T. C. and the Naval-Training Unit were given liberty from 9:00 A. M. until 5:00 P. M. Naturally everyone went to the loop to join in the merrymaking. About two weeks later a letter came from the Great Lakes Station, stating that those who desired a release from active duty should mail a request to the Navy Department. Everyone got busy, and on December 20th, one month later, the "gobs" said good-bye to the old "ship" and "shoved off" for civilian life. Wasn't it a grand and glorious feeling?

The majority of the men went back to continue their courses but they will never forget the days spent on the good old ship "A. I. T."