

Physical training programs are in effect in all Canadian universities, with modifications for women students. These programs, aiming to develop and to maintain general physical fitness as a means of improving the general functional efficiency of the individual, definitely prepare students, mentally as well as physically, for entrance into the armed services.

ADULT
EDUCATION

The war has had a notable effect at the level of post-school education. The necessity for public instruction concerning the issues of the war and the problems of the post-war world has stimulated adult education projects generally.

Canadian universities have been making a distinctive contribution to adult education through their summer courses and correspondence courses. Twelve of the 19 degree-conferring institutions have such courses and regularly give credit in various subjects toward a bachelor of arts degree and, in some cases, a master's degree.

The extension activities of all universities have assumed as part of their task the interpretation of the war, the issues involved in it and the problems of the post-war world.

The extension departments of most universities cooperate with various organizations devoted to the education of adults. Two such organizations are the Workers' Educational Association and the Canadian Association for Adult Education. The W. E. A., with the co-operation of the universities, has established evening classes, week-end conferences and seasonal schools throughout the Dominion. Study courses include economics, public speaking and administrative labour problems, international affairs and cultural arts.

The Canadian Association for Adult Education, established in 1935, is a national organization for the co-ordination of all existing agencies engaged in the education of adults. Through conferences, the use of radio for adult listening groups and leadership training courses, the C. A. A. E. has, during the last years, steadily increased public interest in informal adult education as a means of improving public morale and of broadening the understanding of and interest in public issues of a national and international character.

One example of this work on a national scale is seen in the national farm radio forum, financed and directed by the C.A.A.E. in co-operation with the Canadian Federation of Agriculture and through the services of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. The farm radio forum, first presented in 1940-41, is concerned to promote discussion of the various problems which beset Canadian farmers in their important work of producing food. These problems have been highlighted by the war, and the farm forum has been especially significant in promoting critical study of them. It has also stimulated co-operative action in the use of farm help and equipment and in the organization of credit unions.

Another example of the work of the C.A.A.E. is the highly successful Community Life Training Institute centred in Simcoe County, Ontario. The educational activities of this county-wide plan, which was started in 1937, have now been adopted by three other counties in Ontario. The plan of action in Simcoe County calls for the use of rural schools as centres of night-school studies leading to community improvement. The C.A.A.E. has enlisted the support of the departments of education, farm organizations, Women's Institutes, school teachers and leaders of the churches.