

Conditions of Admission and Courses of Instruction in the National Military Schools of European Powers.

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BELGIUM.

The school which corresponds most nearly to the United States Military Academy is the École Militaire, or Military Academy, at Ixelles.

The object of this school is to supply officers to the following arms: (1) The infantry, (2) the cavalry, (3) the artillery, and (4) the engineers.

The length of the course of instruction is two years for the infantry and cavalry section, and four years for the artillery and engineer section.

All students, on commencing the second year's course, must contract to serve for eight years.

There are no admissions to the school except by competition.

The number of places or vacancies at the school is announced every year about the middle of February.

In 1895 the total number of places to be competed for was 85. In 1894 the total number of vacancies announced was 70.

CONDITIONS OF THE COMPETITIONS.

I. The names of all candidates must be entered on the lists of the Military Academy.

These lists are closed one month before the opening of the examinations. No one can be admitted to the competition unless he has previously shown: (1) That he is a native or naturalized Belgian; (2) that he is over 17 and less than 21 years of age on the day of the opening of the competition.

Youths of less than 18, who under the laws in force in Belgium have at this age the right of choosing Belgian nationality, may also be admitted to the competition. They will not, however, be allowed to commence the second year's course unless they have made their declaration of election according to the forms prescribed by the law.

Exceptionally, the following may be admitted to the competitions: (1) Soldiers of the active army, up to the age of 25 years; (2) university graduates who have obtained one or more academic degrees, up to the age of 23 years.

II. Each candidate, on entering his name on the list at the Military Academy, must furnish:

(a) A copy of his certificate of birth.

(b) A copy of his father's certificate of birth.

The documents must be attested in proper form by the president of the tribunal of first instance.

(c) A declaration of the father or guardian of the candidate, certifying that the father of the latter was born of Belgian parents, or that he has obtained full naturalization by the law of ———.

This declaration must be legalized by the burgomaster of the place where the affiant is domiciled.