

# Victory Corps

Among the major war activities of our school at the present time, probably one of the most important is the Victory Corps. The work of this organization is so far reaching and vital that its history should be of the greatest interest to every student.

The Victory Corps, or Junior Army of America, was founded by the National Education Association in cooperation with the United States Office of Education, under the leadership of John W. Studebaker. Captain Eddie Rickenbacker, hero of World War I and II, has assumed the responsibility of Chairman of the National Policies Commission. Secretary Willard E. Givens of the NEA and Secretary Paul E. Elicker of the National Association of Secondary School Principals are members of the committee, along with representatives of the War, Navy, and Commerce Departments. These are only a few of the many illustrious names connected with this organization.

All the countries of the world realize the value of training youth in the ideals for which that country stands. The United States was not slow in recognizing this fact. We have seen the great assembling of German youth in their war machine; we have known of the priceless sacrifices made by Russian children for their country; and closer to home, we know of our own boys who have lost their lives on foreign fronts fighting for this great land of liberty. We at home must do everything within our power to make the peace, when it comes, a lasting one. It is for this reason that the high school Victory Corps has been organized.

In the twenty-eight thousand secondary schools of this nation, the students have always been eager to do their bit for the war effort. However, there was no guidance so that this enthusiasm could be harnessed and turned into useful power. The purpose of the Victory Corps is to direct this eagerness into effective action and to channel it into areas of increasingly critical need.

In the high schools of our country, it has been unnecessary to stimulate interest in these activities. Already, students of all races and creeds have become members in the General Service Division of the Victory Corps. The mobilization of our youth has not been neglected over the many months of war in which we have been engaged. Great strides have been made by the Victory Corps, and undoubtedly greater ones will be made in the future.

The original organization of the Victory Corps was not a definite plan of working for all the schools; it was merely a pattern which they could follow in planning their own program of operation. This pattern was created by the main office at Washington. In our city, as in other cities, a Central Committee of the Board of Education has planned the organization of the Victory Corps in the Cincinnati High Schools. Dr. Orin B. Graf, chairman of this committee, working with the other members, has formed a policy of operation for the Victory Corps in each high school. A definite uniform set of principles has been worked out for all the schools of the city — such as, organization of activities, the granting and wearing of the insignia, and other associated details.