

# BIGGEST WEST POINT CLASS JOINS ARMY

Diplomas Presented to 164  
Second Lieutenants at 1915  
Graduating Ceremony.

SOME ARE NOTED ATHLETES

Secretary Garrison Tells the Young  
Officers Their Efficiency Is  
an Honor to the Nation.

Special to The New York Times.

WEST POINT, June 12.—The regular army was increased by an addition of 164 Second Lieutenants, of all arms of the service, today. This was the number of young men who received from Colonel C. P. Townsley, the Superintendent of the Military Academy, the diplomas that marked their transfer from cadetship to actual army service. It was the largest class ever graduated since West Point was founded by George Washington, more than a century ago, and in scholarship, military efficiency, and in character it was, as Secretary of War Garrison himself said, a class the graduation of which was a matter of national congratulation.

The exercises were held on the West Plain in the presence of one of the largest crowds that ever journeyed to West Point to witness the impressive ceremonies marking the graduation of West Pointers. On the stand with Colonel Townsley, and the heads of the West Point departments, were, among others, Major General Hugh L. Scott, the Chief of the General Staff; Brigadier General H. G. Gibson, of the class of 1847, still alert at nearly 90 years, and who is the oldest living West Point graduate; General Horace Porter, John M. Wilson, and J. M. Whittemore, who graduated fifty-five years ago this month; General S. M. Mansfield and General Tully McCrea of the class of 1862; General Frank H. Phipps and Captain James R. Reid of the class of 1863, nine members of the class of 1865, among them Colonels W. R. Livermore, W. S. Stanton, Edward Hunter and C. A. Dempsey. Of later classes there were Major General George W. Goethals, the builder of the Panama Canal; Brigadier General J. B. Aleshire, the Chief of the Quartermaster Corps; Brigadier General Henry P. McCain, the Adjutant General of the army; Brigadier General D. C. Kingman, the Chief of the Corps of Engineers; Colonel Adelbert Cronkite, the artillery commander of the Canal Zone; Colonel Edwin F. Glenn, the Chief of Staff on Governors Island; Brigadier General Tasker H. Bliss, the Assistant Chief of the General Staff, and scores of other well known officers of both the active and retired lists.

At 9:55 o'clock the Cadet Corps formed, and then with the West Point band playing the march started to the Battle Monument, in front of which the exercises were held. Colonel Townsley walked with Secretary Garrison, and behind them came General Scott and General Bliss. Lieut. Col. Morton F. Smith, the Commandant of Cadets, commanded the cadet battalion.

The graduating class occupied seats in the centre row directly in front of the stand from which Secretary Garrison was to speak, and from which Colonel Townsley, with a hearty handshake and a pleasant word for each was to hand to each man, in the order of his class standing, his diploma. Secretary Garrison had the centre of the stage, with Colonel Townsley on his right. The academic and tactical officers and the "old grads" were grouped behind them.

## Garrison's Speech.

The exercises opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. H. Percy Silver, the West Point Chaplain. Then followed the only address of the day, that of the Secretary of War. Mr. Garrison spoke not more than ten minutes, his speech being an appreciation of the spirit and traditions of the Military Academy, and an admonition to the young men before him to measure up to the standard set by those traditions.

"I congratulate each of you young men," said Secretary Garrison, "on the privilege that is yours of being a member of West Point's largest class. I congratulate the Military Academy on having graduated such a class, and I lastly congratulate the nation to whose service the lives of you young men are consecrated.

"To be honorable, valorous, truthful, fair, and just in your dealings with others, to be ready to sacrifice all for your country, are the traditions which were handed down to you and which will be handed on by you to those who are to follow.

"While traditions are of course valuable in civil life, they are trebly valuable in the career which you have chosen. The activities of the average citizen are circumscribed and largely centred about himself and his own relations. You, however, are conspicuously placed, and represent your country. Lamentable as are the lapses of the citizen, they are not so conspicuous or so damaging as are lapses upon the part of officers of the army of the United States.

"You have undertaken a great re-

sponsibility. You may be called upon at any time to demonstrate your worth; and upon your conduct may depend issues of vital moment to your country. You can only be sure that you will worthily and successfully meet such responsibilities if you have entered on your career in the proper spirit—if you have become imbued with the proper traditions. Your rôle is so difficult a one that it can only be played by those who realize its significance and have entered upon it in the proper spirit. If any have taken up this profession merely in order to have a livelihood, or have come into it allured merely by its showy side, they are not only doomed to individual failure, but they also interfere with the integrity of the body as a whole. Unless you look upon yourselves as men who have actually, not only in word, pledged all that was in you for your country's safety, you have not imbibed the proper traditions and you cannot worthily hand them on.

After the speech of the Secretary of War came the "big event" in the life of every West Pointer, the presentation of diplomas and the accompanying demonstrations by the under classmen.

## Roll of the Class.

The graduates, all of whom are now officers of the army, were:

Anderson, H. B., Dover, N. J.  
Arthur, J. D. Jr., Union, S. C.  
Atkins, Layson E., Berkeley, Cal.  
Aurand, Henry S., Shamokin, Penn.  
Avent, Hugh P., Rosebud, Texas.  
Balsam, Alfred S., Birmingham, Ala.  
Bank, Carl C., Donnellson, Iowa.  
Benedict, Charles C., Hastings, Neb.  
Bethel, Edwin Alexander, Vienna, Va.  
Beukema, Herman, Muskegon, Mich.  
Boets, N. Jay, Beaver Falls, Penn.  
Boye, Frederic W., New York City, N. Y.  
Bradley, O. N., Moberly, Mo.  
Brady, Thomas J., Philadelphia, Penn.  
Bragdon, J. Stewart, Wilkes-Barre, Penn.  
Brownell, G. S., Canajoharie, N. Y.  
Busbee, Charles M., Raleigh, N. C.  
Chapin, Charles E., Bridgewater, N. Y.  
Cherrington, W. F., Gallipolis, Ohio.  
Cochran, I. H., Fauquier Co., Va.  
Conklin, John F., Penn Yan, N. Y.  
Corbin, Herbert R., Dayton, Ohio.  
Coughlan, Joseph Daly, North Dartmouth, Mass.  
Cousins, Ralph P., Canyon, Texas.  
Covell, William E. R., Washington, D. C.  
Cronkite, A. P., New York City, N. Y.  
Dabney, H. Harold, Hood River, Ore.  
Davidson, Lewis C., Denver, Col.  
Davis, John F., Austin, Texas.  
Davis, M. F., New Richmond, Ohio.  
Davison, Donald A., Chicago, Ill.  
Donnelly, Howard, Naugatuck, Conn.  
Duckstad, J. Benjamin, Fertile, Minn.  
Dunigan, Frank J., Sacramento, Cal.  
Dwan, Edward J., East Lynn, Mass.  
East, Whitten J., Senatobia, Miss.  
Eberts, M. M., Little Rock, Ark.  
Eisenhower, Dwight D., Abilene, Kan.  
Eisenschmidt, Clyde R., Guthrie, Okla.  
Ellis, E. DeTreville, Mt. Pleasant, S. C.  
Emery, Frank E., Jr., Skowhegan, Me.  
Esteves, Luis Raul, Aguadilla, Porto Rico.  
Evans, Vernon, Washington, D. C.  
Ferris, Benjamin Greeley, Pawling, N. Y.  
Finley, C. R., Philadelphia, Penn.  
Fox, Tom, Mankato, Minn.  
Frank, Paul Russell, Pittsburgh, Penn.  
Ganahal, Alfred L., Springfield, Mass.  
Gerhardt, Jacob J., Milwaukee, Wis.  
Gesler, Earl E., Joliet, Ill.  
Gibson, Richmond T., New Haven, Conn.  
Gilkeson, A. H., Sellersville, Penn.  
Gillette, D. H., Philadelphia, Penn.  
Gorman, Earl H., Morgantown, W. Va.  
Graves, S. C., Frout's Neck, Me.  
Halcomb, W. S. T., New York City, N. Y.  
Hall, Blackburn, Washington, D. C.  
Hanley, T. J., Jr., Coshocton, Ohio.

Harmod, Hubert R., Washington, D. C.  
Harris, John B., Hoosac, N. Y.  
Harvey, H. A., McComb, Miss.  
Haw, Joseph C., Hampton, Va.  
Hearn, T. G., Tuskegee, Ala.  
Henley, Donald, Moscow, Idaho.  
Herrick, Charles C., Sayre, Okla.  
Hess, Walter W., Jr., Germantown, Penn.  
Hobbs, Leland S., Philadelphia, Penn.  
Hoeker, Carl E., Rifle, Col.  
Hodgson, Paul Alfred, Wichita, Kan.  
Hooper, O. A. E., McAlester, Okla.  
Howard, Clinton W., Brockton, Mass.  
Howell, Reese M., Logan, Utah.  
Hubbard, Eustis L., Catskill, N. Y.  
Hunt, J. B., Sullivan, Ind.  
Hyde, Edward B., Jr., Flushing, N. Y.  
Irwin, S. Le Roy, Skaneateles, N. Y.  
James, Harold W., Wilkes-Barre, Penn.  
Jones, Clifford R., Peaks Island, Me.  
Kahle, John F., Cincinnati, Ohio.  
Kellner, John, Jamaica Plain, Mass.  
Kelton, Edwin C., Columbus, Ohio.  
Kimble, Edwin R., Galveston, Texas.  
King, Clifford B., Rome, Ga.  
Larkin, Thomas B., Buckeye, Wash.  
Leonard, John W., Toledo, Ohio.  
Lester, James Allen, Newberry, S. C.  
Lindner, Clarence Brewster, Savannah, Ga.  
Lorch, Robert E., Carrollton, Ky.  
Lyon, Edwin B., Las Cruces, N. M.  
McDermott, John A., Brooklyn, N. Y.  
McGee, Frank D., Claremont, S. D.  
McGuire, Edward C., New York City, N. Y.  
McNabb, Stanley, Newark, N. J.  
McNair, Philip K., Aiken, S. C.  
McNary, Joseph T., Emporium, Penn.  
MacDonald, Stuart C., Seneca Falls, N. Y.  
MacTaggart, John S., Fitchburg, Mass.  
Marsh, Raymond, Kingston, N. Y.  
Melberg, Reinold, Mount Clemens, Mich.  
Mendenhall, J. R., New Rochelle, N. Y.  
Meneely, John K., Watervliet, N. Y.  
Menohar, Pearson, Fort Myer, Va.  
Merillat, Louis A., Jr., Chicago, Ill.  
Miller, Ernest F., Calmar, Iowa.  
Miller, Henry J. E., Buffalo, N. Y.  
Miller, Lehman W., Lebanon, N. H.  
Mills, Benjamin W., Monticello, Fla.  
Mueller, Paul J., Union, Mo.  
Murphy, J. Monroe, Baltimore, Md.  
Naiden, Earl L., Woodward, Iowa.  
O'Brien, Martin J., Lewiston, Me.  
Ord, James B., San Diego, Cal.  
Parkinson, F. D., Preston, Idaho.  
Peabody, George H., Cheyenne, Wyo.  
Peables, W. Berkeley, Petersburg, Va.  
Pendleton, H. McE., Washington, D. C.  
Price, Earl M., Racine, Wis.  
Pritchard, Vernon E., Onawa, Iowa.  
Pulsifer, George, Leavenworth, Kan.  
Quesensberry, M. H., Montgomery, W. Va.  
Randolph, Norman, Rosemont, Penn.  
Reed, Eugene, Ore.  
Reed, Metcalf, Passaic, N. J.  
Richardson, George J., Easton, Penn.  
Ritchel, C. S., Centerville, Iowa.  
Robinson, John N., Pentwater, Mich.  
Russell, John E., Point o' Woods, N. Y.  
Ryder, Chas. W., Topeka, Kan.  
Saylor, Henry E., Huntington, Ind.  
Series, Logan W., Hollister, Cal.  
Sherburne, Edward C., Montpelier, Vt.  
Small, Harold E., Hudson, N. H.  
Smylie, John Scott, Hattiesburg, Miss.  
Stevens, J. F., Philadelphia, Penn.  
Stickney, Richard C., Gloucester, Mass.  
Stratemeier, George E., Peru, Ind.  
Straub, Oscar A., Fort Howard, Ind.  
Stringfellow, H. Jr., Mt. Creek, Ala.  
Strong, Robert W., Painesville, Ohio.  
Struble, Herbert S., Kansas City, Mo.  
Summers, Iverson Brooks, Jr., East St. Louis, Mo.  
Swing, Joseph M., Caldwell, N. J.  
Taylor, Thomas F., Winchester, Tenn.  
Taylor, V. V., Seattle, Wash.  
Tenny, Clesen H., Plymouth, N. H.  
Teter, Joseph Jesse, Belington, W. Va.  
Thompson, John McD., Washington, D. C.  
Tompkins, William F., Richmond, Va.  
Van Fleet, J. A., Auburndale, Fla.  
Ver, Anastacio Quevedo, San Miguel, P. I.  
Waldron, Albert W., West Henrietta, N. Y.  
Wallace, J. Hobart, Oklahoma City, Okla.  
Wallington, Edward C., Vineland, N. J.  
Walton, L. A., Salem, Ore.  
Warren, Albert H., Danielson, Conn.  
Watson, Leroy H., Cornwall-on-Hudson, N. Y.  
Weart, Douglas L., Chicago, Ill.

White, Arthur A., Peoria, Ill.  
Williams, John H. C., Baltimore, Md.  
Williams, Robert L., Hodgenville, Ky.  
Wogan, John B., New Orleans, La.  
Woodruff, Mason J., Oskaloosa, Iowa.  
Youngs, Mason J., Derry, N. H.  
Zundel, E. A., Greensburg, Penn.

## Covell the Honor Man.

The first honor man of the class was W. E. R. Covell of Washington, D. C. But he gained the honor by the narrowest possible of margins. Between Covell and E. R. Kimble of Galveston, Texas, who was the second honor man, the margin was less than three-thousandths of 1 per cent., the closest margin between first and second honor men in the history of the academy. The next eighteen men, who with Covell and Kimble go to the Corps of Engineers, are Arthur, Miller, Bragdon, Richards, Cronkite, Smylie, Miller, Weart, Gesler, Bethel, Conklin, Ganahl, Harris, Tompkins, Gillette, Hodgson, Davidson, and Aurand, Merrillat, the famous "All-American" football star, stood ninety-third. Pritchard, another "All-American" football star, and with Merrillat, also a baseball star, stood one hundred and thirty-fourth; Esteves, the Porto Rican, was ninety-seventh, and Ver, the Filipino, was one hundred and nineteenth. The "immortals," the fellows who constitute the "rear guard"

and who generally make mighty fine soldiers, are J. H. C. Williams, Eberus, Straub, Frice, White, Keliher, Mills, Taylor, Quesensberry, R. L. Williams, and Herrick.

Every graduate got a rousing and noisy send-off as he stepped forward to receive his diploma. It was easy to tell by the noise who had been the more popular cadets in the class. Among them may be mentioned the athletic stars, Merrillat, Pritchard, Hobbs, Benedict, Woodruff, Gorman, Herrick, Larkin, Bradley, Van Vleet, Gerhart, and Eisenhower. Covell was another popular member of the class, and so was Esteves and Little Ver, the smiling Filipino, and Herrick of the "immortals." Herrick's was the only hand shaken by Secretary Garrison.

Immediately following the delivery of the diplomas the new cadet officers were announced. The Captains are Cadets Moses, Coffin, Bliss, Snow, Syer, and Woodward. Cadet Johns is the Adjutant and Cadet Ingalls the Quartermaster. The company Lieutenants are Cadets H. C. Jones, Chambers, Hudnutt, Fraser, Hoge, De Witt, Walsh, Maguire, Bennet, Levy, R. M. Neyland, Spence, M. L. Miller, Rutherford, Wales, Crane, Kuhn, and H. Mitchell.

The graduates left here for New York this afternoon where the class dinner was to be held in the Hotel Astor. Prior to the dinner the class attended the performance of Montgomery and Stone in "Chin-Chin" at the Globe Theatre.