Some Notes on the Selective Service Act

George C. Lightcap
Iowa State College

Follow this and additional works at: https://lib.dr.iastate.edu/iowastate_veterinarian
Part of the Defense and Security Studies Commons, Public Policy Commons, and the Veterinary Medicine Commons

Recommended Citation
Lightcap, George C. (1940) "Some Notes on the Selective Service Act," Iowa State University Veterinarian: Vol. 3 : Iss. 1 , Article 5. Available at: https://lib.dr.iastate.edu/iowastate_veterinarian/vol3/iss1/5

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at Iowa State University Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Iowa State University Veterinarian by an authorized editor of Iowa State University Digital Repository. For more information, please contact digirep@iastate.edu.
Some Notes on the Selective Service Act

GEORGE C. LIGHTCAP
Class of 1941

A GREAT majority of the veterinary students at Iowa State College have evidenced much concern in regard to their standing in relation to the Selective Service Act of 1940. This concern doubtless prevails among the students of every veterinary college in the country.

The "Veterinary Student" has expended every effort to obtain the desired information, but at the present writing nothing definite pertaining to the veterinarian or the veterinary student is available. The present emergency will, in all probability, cause the army veterinary service to be revised; and until such time as this takes place no information is available other than that pertaining to the veterinary corps of the regular army.

At the present time the army officials are reasonably sure that students regularly enrolled in recognized colleges for a degree will be exempt, upon application, from call to service until after June 30, 1941.

Bill Before Congress

There is at present a bill before congress to exempt medical and dental students indefinitely. The same bill provides that graduates in medicine and dentistry will be commissioned as officers of the Medical Department Reserve Officers' Reserve Corps if called to service. Effort is now being made to amend this bill to include veterinary students and graduate veterinarians.

Considerable information is available concerning all college students in regard to selective service regulations. Some of this information may be of interest to readers of this article.

The selective service act does create immediate problems. The first consideration must obviously be the best interests of national defense. However, total national defense includes, besides military preparedness, the preservation and development of all social institutions basic to American life. An effective program of national defense must include the continuance of such institutions as our colleges and universities. They furnish a constant source of men skilled in professions which are necessary to successfully serve the best interests of society.

National defense creates an increased demand for men in such fields as the various branches of medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, and engineering, as well as in the more basic sciences such as physics, chemistry, biology, geology, hydrology, meteorology, and others. In the different professions the numbers needed will vary, but in cases where the numbers are small, the need for continuous training of these few is all the more essential.

Research Essential

The continuance of research activities is also an absolute essential for the improvement of basic facilities in American life and in building a national defense. Studies in physical, biological, and social sciences, and their application to agriculture, industry and medicine are but a few of the more important branches of research being carried on in our various colleges and universities. These studies require long and continuous efforts of the men engaged in these fields and to interrupt such research activities would be very unwise, especially in a time of national defense.
There are two alternatives for the present college student. The first is the desire to request postponement of training until July 1, 1941, and the second is the desire to request deferment because of occupational status. It seems quite clear that the student who will receive his degree before July 1, 1941, should request deferment and continue his studies. The student who is twenty-one, but will not complete his course before July 1, 1941, will need to evaluate all factors involved including his own personal plans and the national need. Under normal conditions, he might well continue his studies for the current year. If, however, his number in order of call is such that he will probably receive his call during the school year of 1941-1942 it might be wise for him to request his local board to advance his number so that he will serve, for example, from July 1, 1941, to June 30, 1942. This would avoid any possibility of his studies being interrupted during the following academic year.

**Occupational Deferment**

If the individual is permitted to postpone his service, the local draft board is required to classify him at the time his number is called, either in class I-D or I-E (students eligible for service not later than July 1, 1941) or in class II (occupational deferment). If a student, due to his specialized studies leading to a professional career in which there is a shortage of such trained men, appeals to the local board with proper evidence from a responsible official of the college or university where such a student is registered, the board may place him in class II as deferred for occupational reasons. Certain students of engineering, medicine, pharmacy, dentistry, and other similar special courses may come in this category.

**Excerpts**

The following are a few excerpts from the selective training and service act of 1940 and selective service regulations of immediate concern to education.

**Vol. One. 101.** The purpose of selective service. The purpose of selective service is to secure an orderly, just, and democratic method whereby the military manpower of the United States may be made available for training and service in the land and naval forces of the United States, as provided by the congress, with the least possible disruption of the social and economic life of the nation.

**Volume Three 351.** “Necessary Man” defined. A registrant shall be considered a “Necessary Man” in industry, business, employment, agricultural pursuit, governmental service, or in any other service or endeavor, including training or preparation therefore, only when all of these conditions exist.

(a) He is, or but for a seasonal or temporary interruption would be, engaged in such activity.
(b) He cannot be replaced satisfactorily because of a shortage of persons with his qualifications or skill in such activity.
(c) His removal would cause a material loss of effectiveness in such activity.

**Student Provisions**

The act contains the following provisions regarding students enrolled in colleges and universities.

**Sec. 5 (F)** Any person who, during the year 1940, entered upon attendance for the academic year 1940-1941:

1. At any college or university which grants a degree in arts or science, to pursue a course of instruction satisfactory completion of which is prescribed by such college or university as a pre-requisite to either such degrees.
2. At any college or university described in paragraph (1), to pursue a course of instruction to the pursuit of which a degree in arts

(Continued on Page 36)
or science is prescribed by such university as a pre-requisite; and who, while pursuing such course of instruction at such college or university, is selected for training and service under this act prior to the end of such academic year, or prior to July 1, 1941, whichever occurs first, shall, upon his request, be deferred from induction into the land or naval forces for such training and service until the end of such academic year, but in no event later than July 1, 1941.

Selective Service Regulations

The "Selective Service Regulations" give this interpretation:

Volume Three 345. Class I-D. Student fit for general military service; available not later than July 1, 1941. In class I-D shall be placed every college or university student who meets all the conditions specified in paragraph 347 and who after physical examination is found fit for general military service, according to standards prescribed in volume VI, "Physical Standards."

Volume Three 346. Class I-E. Student fit only for limited military service; available not later than July 1, 1941. In class I-E shall be placed every college or university student who meets all of the conditions specified in paragraph 347 and who after physical examination is found fit only for limited military service, according to the standards in volume VI, "Physical Standards."

Student Deferment

Volume Three 347. Conditions on student deferment. No registrant shall be placed in class I-D or class I-E unless he meets all of the following conditions

(a) He shall request that he be deferred from induction.

(b) He entered upon attendance in a college or university, as defined in paragraph 348 for the academic year 1940-41, and before January 1, 1941.

(c) He is in substantially full-time attendance at such college or university and is there a bona fide student pursuing a course of instruction which the college or university requires be satisfactorily completed as a pre-requisite to conferring degrees in arts or sciences (such as undergraduate or bachelor's degrees or master's, doctor's, professional, or other advanced degrees), or as a prerequisite to conferring certificates which are accepted as a credit toward such degrees by colleges or universities which confer such degrees. The taking of a correspondence course shall not be cause for deferment for any registrant.

College or University Defined

Volume Three. 348. Definition of College or University. The term "College or University" shall include only an advanced educational institution which regularly grants to students who have satisfactorily passed prescribed courses of instruction, degrees in the arts or sciences (such as undergraduate or bachelor's degrees or master's, doctor's, professional, or other advanced degrees), and any junior college which regularly grants to students certificates which are accepted by such advanced institutions as a credit toward such degrees.

Volume Three. 349. Length of deferment for college or university students. Registrants classified in class I-D or class I-E shall be deferred until the end of their academic year 1940-1941, or until July 1, 1941, whichever occurs first. Men in class I-E, unless reclassified, shall not be inducted until such time as they are acceptable to, and called by, the land or naval forces for training for service.

Summary

In this article the writer has attempted to bring forth merely a few of the more
important provisions of the Selective Service Regulations Act, which are of immediate concern to the student. Any national emergency that might arise in the future will, in all probability, greatly alter the conditions as provided in this act. The Veterinary Student will attempt to obtain any information concerning this Act which may be available in the future.

Hydrometra in a Cat

Louis W. Feldman
Class of 1942

A female Persian cat, eight years of age, was presented at the McGinnis Animal Hospital, Peoria, Ill., on July 6, 1940. The owner had noticed an enlargement of the abdomen with symptoms of anorexia, vomition and depression. The abdomen was enormously enlarged and the animal was emaciated. The temperature was 103°. A tentative diagnosis of pyometra was made and permission was granted to proceed with surgery.

Anesthesia consisted of 1½ grains of Nembutal per os. The ventral surface of the abdomen was shaved, cleansed with alcohol and painted with tincture of merthiolate.

A median incision, beginning immediately posterior to the umbilicus and extending backward four inches, was made through the abdominal muscles and peritoneum. When the uterus and ovaries were brought through the incision, the horns of the uterus were found to be greatly enlarged; the right ovary was cystic and the left ovary apparently normal. After the ovarian arteries were ligated with No. 0 plain catgut, the ovarian ligaments were clamped off with an angiotribe and excised with a small scalpel.

The body of the uterus was clamped off with a large curved forceps and severed anterior to the forceps. Again using No. 0 plain catgut a purse string suture was made just posterior to the forceps. The forceps were removed, the stump of the uterus was inverted, the purse string suture was drawn up and reinforced by a continuous suture. The laparotomy wound was closed using a continuous No. 0 catgut suture in the peritoneum and fascia and No. 1 dermis suture for the skin.

The uterus and ovaries weighed 960 grams (approximately 34 ounces) and measured 33 cm. (13 inches) from left to right ovary. Upon examination it was found that both uterine horns were filled with thin mucus instead of pus. The left ovary was normal; the right ovary which was cystic and filled with thin mucus measured 7½ cm. (3 inches) in diameter. A diagnosis of hydrometra was made.

Recovery occurred in six days and was uneventful. This case was particularly interesting because of the great contrast in the size of the animal before and after the operation.

Dr. M. J. Johnson, Department of Veterinary Surgery, and Dr. C. D. Lee, Veterinary Research Institute, appeared on the program of the Eastern Iowa Veterinary Association meeting at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on Oct. 15 and 16, 1940. Dr. Johnson spoke on “Suture Materials and Suturing” and Dr. Lee presented papers on “Poultry Parasite Control” and “Report On Avian Section of the 1940 Practioner’s Clinic”.

Fall, 1940