

Mr. BELL. Undergraduate deferments.

General HERSHEY. Is there any question about the fact that the law did not provide for everybody who was a candidate for the baccalaureate—maybe I am not answering—I don't know that I can answer that question, because in the first place I was around here most of the spring a year ago, and at that time I suppose I would not have imagined that we were going to have almost complete deferment for the baccalaureate.

The advice that I received in quite a number of these was not in that direction.

When I was back in Indiana as a kid, very few people went to high school. By the time we got into World War II, it was taken for granted that we ought to let a youngster alone until he gets through high school.

I am not so sure that we did not move up one more step and say that now the basis is a baccalaureate.

I am here in front of these educators, and I am sort of embarrassed, because they know more about philosophy than I do.

Mr. BELL. In that case, why would not the same justification apply to graduate students?

General HERSHEY. If it takes 20 years to go from high school to acceptance of the baccalaureate, I don't know how much further it goes to get to the graduate.

You see, one of the things is that when you are fooling with a high school kid, you can always say you will get him when he gets into college. When you go to a baccalaureate, you can say you will get him when he gets to graduate school, but when you are getting to graduate school, you are almost getting to the place where you are not going to get him.

That is one of the more practical things of philosophy.

Mrs. GREEN. Don't you extend the age until they are 35, for some?

General HERSHEY. Yes; but we have had no calls for anybody above 26.

Mrs. GREEN. I mean on the point you just made.

General HERSHEY. The Department of Defense would probably think if a graduate student was so old that you could not teach him much, that if he got to be up toward 35, he would not be any better.

Now, we do take, of course, the physicians and the dentists up to 35, because, in the first place, it takes a little longer for them to get to the place where they can practice their profession, but during World War II, when our mobilization was a lot more complete than now, we went up to 45, and then discharged about 700,000 individuals because they were over 38, and then we backed away from 38 to 26, and then went from 26 up back to 30.

Frankly, I did not have very much to do with it, except having to go where there were people, but I saw pictures in the funny papers of a man pulling petals off a clover, saying, "I guess we will, I guess we won't."

Mr. BELL. I have one more question, General.

Isn't it true that the general philosophy of the Defense Department seems to be that the better soldiers are those in the 19-year-old age bracket? And isn't the combined effect of Public Law 90-40 and the recently announced decision regarding graduate deferments one that virtually guarantees the drafting of older men first?