

those examples comes from social pressure rather than from force of government.

At a given age, however, you boys are all expected to wear the same uniform, learn the same habits, acquire the same attitudes, and learn to do whatever a "brass hat" tells you. Here begins your real training in conformity and regimentation. Presumably the purpose of this training is to make you stanch defenders of our glorious democracy, but other countries have used this same means to destroy belief in, or desire for, democracy. There are those who suspect that even in America the chief purpose of militarization is less to teach you to defend than to teach you to conform—to lie down on a standardized "iron bed" when you're told to do so, and without any back talk.

FORCED CONFORMITY

THOSE OF YOU who are permitted to go to work in civilian occupations—if and when you are—will discover that there again you will be expected to conform to the generally accepted pattern of the employees. If you join with the rest in demanding more pay and shorter hours, you're a "good Joe"; if you figure out a better way to produce more in less time—so your employer can afford to pay you more—you may get lynched.

When you get your first pay check, and every check thereafter, you will find that a part of it has been deducted for the purchase of a number of things which no one asked you if you wanted to buy—Social Security, old age assistance, and maybe bonds and medical benefits. You will conform to this practice for approximately 47 years in order that the government can pay you a pension after you reach the age of sixty-five.

If you go to work in industry, your union will tell you when to work, when to strike, and how much to produce when you are working—and you will conform, or else!

LIKE BABY ROBINS

IF YOU go into business for yourself, the chances are that an FEPC will tell you whom you can hire and whom you can't; the WSB and the unions will tell you how much you shall pay each man; the OPS will tell you what you may charge for your goods and services; and, if you can make any money, the Bureau of Internal Revenue will relieve you of it—to take care of your less ambitious classmates who sit like baby robins with their mouths open waiting for someone to bring them their food.

In other words, while we insist that you get an education, we don't give you credit