



*Corps Commander Gooch*

Presbyterian Church for the past two years.

## ROTC

■ THE DEPARTMENT OF Military Science and Tactics has announced the appointment of R. Gordon Gooch of Fort Worth, Texas, as Corps Commander for 1955-56. A senior, Gooch will hold the rank of cadet colonel. He succeeds Lowell D. Hamric of Lexington.

Gilbert R. McSpadden, Jr., of Memphis, Tennessee, will serve as Gooch's executive officer with the rank of cadet lieutenant colonel. Both men served as company commanders last year.

■ WASHINGTON AND LEE'S ROTC has a new commanding officer this year. Lt. Col. Richard W. Jones, Jr., who headed the program since its beginning in 1951, was relieved of his duties early in August by Lt. Col. Charles E. Coates, Jr., a veteran infantry commander and a member of an "old Army family."

The transfer of a command from a Transportation Corps specialist to a combat training expert completed the switch by Washington and Lee's unit from a Transportation Corps program to a Branch General program. The latter is designed to give young men officer

training of a more general nature. The reserve officers who graduated last June were the first Washington and Lee cadets to get their gold bars under the Branch General program and to be assigned to the branch of service most in need of replacements rather than to the Transportation Corps. Emphasis during the four-year Branch General course will be upon training for the infantry, armor, and artillery, the Army's principal combat arms. This changeover is a part of a general Army ROTC revision which has removed virtually all campus units from the field of specialist training.

The new PMS&T (professor of military science and tactics) is a West Point man who graduated in 1939 as a distinguished cadet. His extensive World War II combat record includes participation in the invasions of Saipan and Okinawa. Son of a retired colonel, he and three brothers elected to follow military careers. Two of them were killed in action, one in North Africa and one in Korea. Col. Coates recently returned from Thailand where he served as a member of a team of American advisors to the Royal Thai Army. He and Mrs. Coates have three children, Charles, III, age 7; Robert, age 4; and Sally Ann, age 1.

Col. Jones, who left Lexington in late August enroute to his new assignment with the United Forces at Rochefort, France, left behind him a distinguished record. Typical of that record is the showing made by Washington and Lee cadets in summer camp competition with students from other colleges at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, and at Fort Eustis, Virginia. Sixty-one cadets trained at the former; the final five graduates for the Transportation Corps completed their requirements at the latter.

In all, 1,065 cadets from thirty colleges were in training at Fort Meade. The school contingents did not train as units, but were dis-

tributed throughout training companies that number approximately 160 men each. Three Washington and Lee cadets— R. Gordon Gooch of Fort Worth, Texas, Charles A. MacIntosh of Haverford, Pennsylvania, and Gilbert R. McSpadden, Jr. of Memphis, Tennessee—won honors as top cadets in their respective companies. Fourteen of Washington and Lee's sixty-one man group were cited as Distinguished Military Students. While no official information is as yet available to indicate how these men compared with other colleges in the final over-all standings, Washington and Lee men did finish third in rifle marksmanship.

At Fort Eustis the University's five cadets achieved an eighth place ranking for Washington and Lee among twenty-seven colleges.

And, as if the foregoing were not enough, the three officers and two enlisted men of Washington and Lee's Military Department who helped train cadets at summer camp all received "superior" ratings.