CADETS ACQUIRE CONSISTORY; BUILDING TRANSFORMED INTO EFFICIENT ARMY BARRACKS

GLASS CHANDELIERS ONLY REMINDER OF BY-GONE AGE

The first contingent of 200 Aviation Cadets who are to receive intensified courses of instruction here at Canisius arrived at the Buffalo Consistory late Sunday night. The following morning the new unit, togged out in working dungarees set to work, finishing the cleaning of the Consistory, and setting up the commissary, the mess hall, study halls, recreation halls, and “bunk houses.”

Marvelous Transformation

The transformation worked on the consistory is nothing short of miraculous. The huge main ballroom, once the glamorous setting for many of Buffalo’s social events, is now the “bunk house” quarters. Double-decked type, wooden bunks, are lined in regular rows right through the ballroom. The two huge, pendulum chandeliers are all that is left of its former grandiose fittings. One of these massive, glass fixtures, hangs directly over one of the upper bunks, and so low is it that its occupant can reach up and touch it. Here most of the cadets will lie wrapped in the arms of Morpheus at night where once whirling figures danced to the strain of ballroom music and soft lights.

Recreational Facilities

Underneath the Auditorium proper are many recreational facilities. There is a modern swimming pool, billiard tables, eight bowling alleys, badminton and handball courts, steam baths, and rubbing rooms.

In the front part of the huge building is the great dining room or, as it is now termed, “the mess hall.” A large kitchen runs directly off the dining room.

The individual, smaller rooms on the second floor have been converted into quarters for the officers of the unit.

All is in readiness. The stripped and streamlined Consistory lies cleaned and glistening, aptly realized for its wartime duties, of the duration.