

The Skirmisher

ST. JOHN'S MILITARY SCHOOL, SALINA, KANSAS

Vol. I.

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No. 3

K. W. B. C. vs. ST. JOHN'S

The first game of the local tournament was played the week before last when St. John's met Kansas Wesleyan Business College on the Y. M. C. A. floor.

The list of the players is as follows:

K. W. B. C.	Position	St. John's
Shultz	Forward	Hungerford
Murphy	Forward	Gable
Grant	Center	Stubbs
Peterson	Guard	Weinberg
Ainsworth	Guard	Oliver

In the second half Hahn substituted for Murphy; Ainsworth for Grant; Brassfield for Hungerford; McClure for Gable; Oakes for Weinberg; Price for Oliver and Muir for Stubbs.

The Y. M. C. A. floor was new to the St. John's men and consequently they were at a great disadvantage. Nevertheless a good fight was put up and St. John's gave Kansas Wesleyan a good game, although the score was not as favorable as it might have been.

Shultz made most of the points scored by K. W. B. C.—Murphy and Ainsworth showed good form, while Hungerford, Gable and Brassfield did the scoring for St. John's.

Much was learned in this game by the guards, who realized that the whole game is played by continually dogging their forwards, thus causing them to miss many goals that would otherwise result in a score. The forwards did very good work but were at a great disadvantage in that they were not used to the baskets.

St. John's hopes to meet K. W. B. C. in the near future on their own floor and give them a taste of their own medicine. The final score for the game was K. W. B. C.—68 and St. John's—14.

K. W. U. vs. ST. JOHN'S

In the second game of the local tournament St. John's met Kansas Wesleyan University on their home floor.

The list of the players is as follows:

K. W. U.	Position	St. John's
Kepperly	Forward	Gable
Perry	Forward	Brassfield
Sackey	Center	Muir
Haskins	Guard	McClure
Johnson	Guard	Oliver

Zamazla substituted for Sackey and Nesmith for Haskins; while Stubbs substituted for Muir and Oakes for Brassfield.

In the first half St. John's scored ten points but, owing to the fact that St. John's men were not acquainted with the floor, they again suffered defeat. Kepperly, Sackey and Zamazla scored the points for K. W. U. while Brassfield and Gable made the goals for St. John's.

In this game St. John's was at a very great disadvantage in that three of their best men were unable to play on account of sickness. Captain Weinberg, our guard and one of our best men, was out on account of ill health. Hungerford and Price, both forwards, were out because of measles. These men were badly missed by the team and everyone hopes they will be able to play in the next games.

"Pep" was lacking in the forwards in the second half and only three points were scored—two of these fouls. The guards did good work but there is room for improvement.

There are several games scheduled for the near future and everyone hopes to see St. John's come out on top.

Probably a game with Salina High will be arranged for this week. Friday St. John's plays McPherson. A good game is promised.

A LETTER FROM FRANCE

Father McMillin recently received a letter from Lieut. Crimp from "Somewhere in France." This will doubtless be of interest to the Cadets, and especially to those who were here last year. Lieut. Crimp was on our faculty until near the end of year when he resigned to enter the First

Officer's Training Camp at Fort Riley where he received his commission in the Cavalry branch of the service. A later message says that he has been made an instructor and will probably be stationed in Paris. The letter follows:

December 5, 1917.

Dear Father "Mac:"

Don't expect much of a letter for my feet are cold and there is really little I can tell you in the way of news. Of course lots of things have happened, but very little I am free to describe.

We have been in camp since October 9, and live in shacks of the portable style. Weather boarding is a luxury we haven't got and when it comes to a floor, "Old Mother Earth" answers the purpose, in a far from smooth manner. For windows we have tightly stretched canvass, white in color, that serves very nicely.

When we first moved into these shacks, our cots sank in the mud and the place was rather disagreeable all round. Since then, however, we have managed to dry the floor and all we have to combat now is the cold.

For the past four days we have had cold weather with snow and I must say I much prefer it to mud, rain, and fog. We have had mud here all the time, with the exception of the past few days, that would make North Santa Fe at its worst look like a solid pavement. Three or four clear days a month is our average weather. This morning I had to break the ice in my bucket before I could wash, so you see I have no hankering for cold drinks or electric fans. The height of my ambition just now is a job, of any kind, in a first-class foundry, where they turn out lots of hot material. They could put me on duty for all three shifts if they liked and I'm sure I wouldn't mind. There was a time when I sympathized with Mr. Cook but I have changed my mind concerning him and think anyone who goes looking for the North Pole, should be put in a padded cell.

(Continued on Page 4)

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THE CRACK SQUAD

The "Crack Squad" had its first beginning when Major Ganssle took the school under his supervision, three years ago. The organization is purely military, and only those who are of the finest in the manual of the arms, can be members.

The work this squad does is very difficult, especially to a beginner, and one has to have patience. It consists of various fancy military drills with the gun. The squad has given several exhibitions, during the past two years, and received many applauses. With the spring fever around again, the squad is being revived, and in a short time, will be in shape again.

The competition this year is going to be of great interest as there are twice as many students here this year as last year. Under the careful supervision of the Major, we are all sure that it will keep up its old standard, as it has for the past three years. The student body joins in wishing the greatest success to the squad, for the year 1918.

"WHAT S. J. M. S. CAN DO TO HELP WIN THE WAR."

We of United States and S. J. M. S. are in a great war!—It is up to us individually and collectively to do all in our power to help win it. Some of our people appear to be too listless to try to do their part. This indifference must be corrected. We cannot win until each individual is willing and

ready to bend every energy and exert every atom of strength in the successful promotion of our cause. No one in the school, no one in the nation is exempt from the service.

There are many, many things that we, as members of S. J. M. S., can do to help win this great world war. A few of the most important are: First, to create sympathetic spirit, to get all the people in sympathy with our task; second, to do all that we can in conserving food ourselves and acting as disciples in the preaching of the food conservation gospel to others; third, working for the Red Cross; fourth, helping along any war fund which may turn up, and last, getting into the best of condition ourselves in order that when called we can take our part and be prepared for leadership. We, of a military school, hold a distinct advantage over the average fellow. Our training and our knowledge of military tactics and requirements, if taken in earnest, can fit us to be examples and an inspiration to our comrades. We have a substantial start, while others must begin at the beginning.

There are few people who are not as yet in sympathy with our great undertaking. Convert these, make them true Americans, for one little cog in the governmental machine can do a great deal of harm if it does not mesh. Establish in all minds, as well as in our own, the motto—"Democracy or Bust."

Food conservation is our most important work, for as has been said, not only by us commons but also by the great men of today, "Food Will Win." It's our duty not only to observe the wheatless and meatless days but also to economize on all scarce food-stuffs in order that our allies may not starve. Working alone we can do little along this line compared to what we could do if we passed the word on and got others to work with us. The Cadet that growls and snorts when things are put on the table that he does not like is the cadet that will hold back not only S. J. M. S. but will make an example to other easily influenced people and they in turn can do injury to Uncle Sam.

The "Red Cross" through its ceaseless efforts has risen to be one of the most important factors in the war. The Red Cross does noble work for the boys in the trenches. It is the acting mother "OVER THERE." There are a few in St. John's who could do a little more in this connection than they are. Think of what the doctors, nurses, and tireless workers are

giving up! Think of that; Next consider what are you doing for them?

What kind of nation would we have if everyone in it were just like you?

In regard to aiding in raising war funds each must be liberal and literally "give till it hurts". An enormous amount of money is an essential war weapon. A few cents saved each week from our allowances and turned over to the government for use might be the means of saving a child from starving; it might be the means of clothing one who would otherwise freeze; it might be the means of supplying extra ammunition, the lack of which might mean the sacrifice of the lives of precious American men.

The matter of putting ourselves in physical condition so as to afford the best possible services to Uncle Sam, when we are called to do our bit, is entirely up to us. Nobody can make us healthy if we continually try to run ourselves down. Then men that learn easily and have an education are the ones that make officers for Uncle Sam. So let's harmonize when on the athletic or drill field and work to the best of our ability for the good of the other fellow.

We all want to make good. We may put an outward show of indifference but at heart we want recognition and power. Let us all make a resolution. Let us strive to let nothing interfere with that resolution. Ignore the grumblers; join the boosters; help one another; be earnest and steadfast; develop ourselves; radiate "pep". With sincere effort we can create a spirit which cannot be conquered. We will become visitors in our daily struggles, school contentions will be overcome, but best of all we will be active, driving examples to others in this time of conflict, we will prove ourselves real men, in this, our National Crisis.

MEMORY BOOKS

Lately many of the Cadets have gotten memory books. These, in after years, will bring back memories of the old school and endear it to you more than ever.

Picture yourselves looking back to the year that you spent at dear old St. John's and thinking of the good times that you had there, for it is commonly said, that a man's school days are the happiest days of his life. Wouldn't it seem fine to walk and talk with your classmates once more? Wouldn't it seem fine to be playing football on the athletic field once again or to be playing basket ball in the gymnasium? Imagine your-

selves, as you look over your dance programs, dancing with, as you thought then, the only girl in the world. Remember the times when you thought you were badly abused by most inconsiderate men. Wouldn't you like to go and shake hands with them, thanking them for all they had done for you? That was the time when you thought you knew it all and the faculty knew nothing. Remember the times when you thought you hadn't a friend among them, when in reality they were your best friends. Look back to the days when you had your petty quarrels and smile at the foolishness of them. Look back to the time when chapel was irksome to you and you disliked it, or rather thought you did. Then stop and think what a help it has really been to you

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and what the habit of going to church formed then is to you now.

Memories are wonderful things. A memory book brings them back to you and no doubt the cadets who have them will take a great deal of pleasure in them, not only now but in years to come.

WILL POWER

Everyone has heard the subject of will power “preached” in school at one time or another. But what is will power? A technical definition is, “Power of mind over the body.” This means little to an ordinary person. Will power is ordinary, everyday grit, “sand” some people call it. Will power is needed more by the average person today, than any other thing. What is it that causes the percentage of students who fail to pass college examinations to be greater today than twenty or thirty years ago? Nothing but lack of will power.

Will power has made men such as Washington, Lincoln, and Grant famous. In our own time we have President Wilson; many men would have failed in his place, his will power has carried him through. Very few people have not read some of Jack London's stories. Mr. London would never have succeeded, had not his tremendous will power carried him through, and forced him to write until his stories became famous.

But, to narrow down to our own environment, will power is needed more by this school than anything else. A boy who lies down on his job and quits, has no will power, and is looked down upon by others for lack of that power.

Many boys have played parts of football games on nothing but pure grit, other people respect them for it. A boy who takes one look at a course, and drops it, is a quitter. And nobody likes a quitter. If a boy does right in the face of wrong he shows his “sand,” his will power.

Cases have come up where it took all the grit a fellow had, to tell the truth, but he came out on top in the end. Nobody ever succeeded who, “lay down on his job” like a quitter. The man who succeeds is the man who can face anything, good or bad, and come up smiling. Therefore the great motto which will power holds forth is “Don't be a quitter.”

Several cadets were late in returning to school. They were Vorland, Ware, Phillips, Rose, Johnson, I. and Bragassa.

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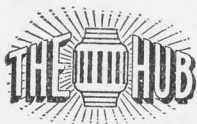
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PERSONALS

We have several new cadets this semester.

Mrs. Hadley, of Tulsa, visited her son for a few days.

S. Sabor, an "old boy", returned a few days to take up school work again.

Bishop Griswold, of Chicago, spent a day or so in Salina with Bishop Sage.

A. E. Dimmick came to Salina with his son, Ellis, at the beginning of the school after the holidays.

J. C. Bland returned a few days ago from his home in Tulsa, where he was called on business.

We have a new teacher, Captain Krichbaum from Warsaw, Ind. He is taking Captain Ream's classes.

Max Brassfield was enrolled from Salina during the holidays. He will make good basket ball material.

Tinsley Try, an "old boy," was here during the holidays. He has been in France for about six months, and has many interesting stories about the trenches.

A LETTER FROM FRANCE (Continued from page 1)

Unlike home conditions, we do not get up to the tune of a bugle. The first thing I hear in the morning is, "It's daylight in the swamps." One of the men who wakes up earlier than the rest always shouts this out the first thing he does.

Am looking forward to the time when I shall be able to tell you more interesting incidents of this campaign.

When you have the opportunity, just tell the young soldiers of St. John's they have it "soft." Their training may some day be of much importance. This, however, depends on how much they put into it.

Am well, and in the best of spirits. It is just as I heard one officer say, "It's a great game if you don't weaken." Far be it from me to weaken.

Remember me to The Family and with the best to you and yours.

"BILL."

W. G. Crimp, 2nd Lieut. Cav. Sec.
U. S. A.

A. E. F. France.

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