

# The Skirmisher

ST. JOHN'S MILITARY SCHOOL, SALINA, KANSAS

Vol. I.

JANUARY 26, 1918

No. 2

## BASKET BALL

Prospects look promising for a winning team in basket ball at St. John's this winter. Already a large number of men have reported regularly for practice. With the help of the cadets and the Messrs. Morgenstern, the local quintet should put St. John's on the basket ball map. Because of cold weather and the difficulties encountered in heating the gymnasium, basket ball practice has been delayed, but now that the weather has moderated, there is nothing to keep St. John's from getting a good start.

At the first practice, last week, it was an easy matter to pick two teams and have a fresh man for either side. With a few words of instruction from the coach, and signals made, the two teams took their positions. Then followed a very hard practice.

Hungerford showed good form as did Weinberg. McClure and Gable need more team work.

The team is very fortunate in having Max Brassfield. He is a very good man and has had some experience at forward with the Lincoln High School team, of this city. He was enrolled here after the Christmas holidays.

The men showed a great deal of "pep" and fight not only during the first practice, but also during the practice games which followed.

The men at the first practice were in poor condition physically and lacked wind, but a marked improvement has been shown, which means that the men have begun to train. At the last practice, few men took the "bench" on account of poor wind, or sore muscles.

During the last practices Mr. Barker has helped Mr. Morgenstern in coaching and instructing. Anyone in doubt as to certain rules regarding basket ball will find Mr. Barker willing to give him advice.

The basket ball team has a number of games scheduled and each one will undoubtedly be a hard fought battle. St. John's will furnish one of the teams that will compete in the local tournament, which promises to be in-

teresting and well worth seeing.

There is a great deal of rivalry between St. John's and Salina High, and games between the two will arouse much spirit and excitement.

## MILITARY WORK AT ST. JOHN'S

Our military activities are progressing rapidly, even though the weather at present prohibits outdoor work. The cold and snow make maneuvers difficult.

While it is impossible to drill out of doors, the battalion listens to lectures in the study hall. The plan is to have a week of lectures followed by an examination. The marks are to be kept to show the military standing of each cadet.

Signaling by use of the semaphore code has been the work of the last few days. We are to take a few letters each day until the alphabet is complete. Short sentences are given and the cadets are becoming quite proficient in the work.

We shall, however, be glad when we shall again be able to get out of doors, and advance with our drills and battalion movements.

## PROMOTIONS

Perhaps one of the most pleasing features of the Christmas party was the reading of a special order. It promoted cadets Henry Perry and Calvin McClure to the rank of corporal. Corporal Perry is to have his work in the Quartermaster department. Cadet Dennis Dearle was promoted to the rank of Lance Corporal last week. We wish them rapid advancement in the future, promotions gained through merit.

The commander of the awkward squad was teaching, (or rather trying) them how to step off. His instructions were to "lift up your left foot." One very green fellow held up his right foot. The Corporal in charge said at once, "Who is the boob with both feet up?"

## CHURCH NEWS

The Very Rev. Geo. B. Kinkead, who for the past ten years has been Dean of Christ Cathedral, Salina, left on December nineteenth to enter the service of the country. His plan at first was to go as a Volunteer Chaplain, i. e. without pay and not in the service of the U. S. Government. He felt that, going in that capacity, he would be free to go among the men and minister to them, unhampered by the exacting routine of the army. He found, however, that this arrangement could not be permitted at present. He then made application for a chaplaincy in the Regular Army. A telegram a few days ago stated that he had passed all of the necessary examinations and was in line for a Captain's Commission.

The faculty and cadets of the school are sorry, indeed, to lose the companionship and the friendly visits of the Dean. He came here often, but never too often. But, as much as we personally regret his leaving, we cannot but rejoice at his success in getting into the work which he wanted (so much) to do. The best wishes of the entire school will go with him wherever he may be called and a warm welcome will always be his whenever he may return to us.

Since the Dean's departure, the Cathedral has been under the charge of Father McMillin. The cadets of St. John's School attend the Sunday services in a body and will continue to do so until the Bishop returns from Keokuk where he has gone to close up his affairs.

The Christmas services were beautiful and well attended. Probably the most impressive service at the Cathedral for some time was the Midnight Mass, New Year's Eve. The chimes in the tower were played from 11:30 until 12:00 when the Mass began. All of the lights were turned out except those in the sanctuary. These, with the blaze of candles on the Altar, made a deep impression on the congregation.

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# The Skirmisher

Published Bi-Monthly by the Cadets of  
St. John's Military School,  
Salina, Kansas.

Subscription rate.....\$1.00 per year

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## CHARACTER

The first thing people ask themselves about a man is, what is his character? The same thing happens when a man applies for a position, for the character of a man is the man himself.

Now, let us get down to our school. Who are the popular fellows? The ones who slouch around trying to do something wrong? No, of course not, for their very presence makes the atmosphere disagreeable. Surely if a man makes us dislike him, he cannot be popular.

Now, the question arises, what has popularity to do with character? The answer is that popularity and character are closely related. You all know that the fellow who is popular is the fellow who has some character. Of course there can be popularity in the mob element of a nation, city, or school. But the man popular with that class is the ring leader. However, do not think that the ring leader hasn't some sort of character, for everyone has some, but his character, as a rule is bad.

Now, let us turn again to our school. Why are certain men made officers? The undeserving and disappointed say, "graft" or "good luck," but the majority of the fellows say they are the right men, the men of some character. Naturally, mistakes are made, but they are soon corrected and the right men put in.

Some think that when you refuse to join the mob and do something that

you know is absolutely wrong, you have a yellow streak, that you are a coward. Let that kind think what they please, do what you think is right and you have started to strengthen your character. Your accusers are the cowards because they haven't the strength of character to resist the rest of their companions.

It takes character to abstain from doing wrong. It takes character not to swear when those around you are swearing. It takes character to tell the truth when all around you are lying. It takes character to keep from using vulgar language when your companions are using it. It takes character not to steal when the opportunity presents itself. It took Washington's character to build up our country; it took Lincoln's to save it. It will take our character to build up our school.

## OUR CHRISTMAS PARTY

Following the custom established three years ago at St. John's, we were given a Christmas party, the night before leaving for the holidays. This year the night of the nineteenth of December was scheduled for the festivities.

First, we were given a repetition of our Thanksgiving dinner. Everything one could think of was on the table, not excluding the ice cream. We ate until our blouses had stretched to their limit, and the most attractive things did not tempt us.

After dinner we all assembled on the west side of the mess hall. In our midst was a Christmas tree with all the "trimmings," and a clothes hamper full of "presents." The major played the role of Santa Claus. He distributed the various articles after reading the rhyme attached to each one. In this way everyone understood the references made. Everyone was presented with a token, a slam, representing something about which he had been tormented by the rest of the fellows. These gifts were received with sheepish smiles by the "victims," and applause by the rest of the school. Some of the most greatly appreciated were the following:

BLAND, J.  
(Theda Bara)

There is a cadet named Bland  
Who would give his heart for her hand  
Here's a picture so rare  
Of the dear lady fair  
The one he adores at the Strand.

WEINBERG

(Lion)

When the youngsters get a lot of  
"eats."  
Weinberg always is right there  
He is a self invited guest  
And takes the lion's share.

YORK, F.

(Book)

To Frances York we here present  
A real scholarly book  
Because he is so studious  
And never deigns to look  
To right or left while studying  
For here's his constant cry  
"I'm always, always busy  
For "I work while others try."

RUDOLF

(Doll)

A gallant cadet  
A fair lady met  
At a dancing class last year  
He felt it his duty  
To talk of her beauty  
There was nothing else you could  
hear.

## II.

This Sergeant so gay  
Seemed to have his own way  
And the case was developing fast  
He stood all the "gaff"  
And many a laugh  
To his "steady" was true to the last.

## III.

Twelve months passed away  
He had called every day  
When he could get permit to town  
He entertained all her friends  
Till at his wit's end  
But still she would have them around.

## IV.

But one memorable night  
When all went just right  
By the fire alone sat she  
The lights were turned low  
And his heart all aglow  
Kept him happy, as happy could be.

## V.

I shyly confess  
Her answer was "yes."  
He was bubbling over with joys  
He raced out to the school  
But broke gallantry's rule  
By shouting it out to the boys.

DYER

(Ruler)

He's late to each formation  
His shoes are never shined  
He never has a book in class  
And his lessons are always behind.

## II.

He talks back to the officers  
He plays in class with a rod  
He breaks every rule imaginable  
Then he wonders why he has squad.

## OAKES

(Sabre)

A young officer so fair  
Breezed in, with an air,  
At a small town hotel, one day  
"A room with a bath,"  
Ordered he with a laugh,  
Then officiously strutted away.

## II.

"Major Rose," next said he,  
"Will you now share with me  
These quarters so meagre and small?"  
It's an absurd thing to say  
But my staff's in my way  
They'll have to find room in the hall."

## III.

Then the clerk, ill at ease  
Said, "Colonel, will you please  
Allow me to show you upstairs?"  
The officer so new  
Felt flattered 'tis true  
As could easily be seen by his airs.

## IV.

"You said Colonel just now  
Come, explain to me how  
YOU recognize merit, you mutt."  
Said the clerk with a wink  
"Why any poor gink  
Knows a Kernel's a part of a nut.

## WAITE

(Mirror)

When Waite got a bump on his head  
Poor boy he tho't he was dead.  
His nose in this case  
Was all over his face  
He looked in the glass  
And then said:  
"Of beauty I am not a star  
There are others more handsome by  
far.  
My face I don't mind it  
Because I'm behind it  
It's the man in the front that I jar."

## SNYDER

(Dust-Cloth)

He does not want to clean his room  
And pick up all his clothes  
Bed making is a bore to him  
As is keeping shoes in rows.

## II.

His looks are quite deceiving,  
One would think him very neat.  
You would soon change your opinion  
If you saw his room or seat.

## PRICE

(Victrola Record)

"I should like so much to show you  
My favorite little trick  
(Though the loaner of material  
Usually gets rather sick)  
Just give me you attention  
I think I need not mention  
That in the art of juggling I'm su-  
preme.  
Don't question my ability  
My quickness and ability  
In spite of competition,  
I really am a dream.  
Now with this Victrola record  
I'll do stunts to startle all  
I'll roll it up and down my arm  
As tho it were a ball."  
Price rolled it. All were gaping  
But the trickster was caught napping  
With a low and sickening thud the  
record fell.  
When Price realized that it broke  
The trick ceased to be a joke  
And the things he said and thot  
We'll never tell.

## CHURCH NEWS

(Continued from Page 1)

Father Kain of Hutchinson, so well  
known to many of the cadets, has a  
leave of absence from his parish for  
one year, to go to France as a Y. M.  
C. A. Secretary. He spent New Year's  
Day with his brother Robert, an "old  
St. John's boy," who is now at the  
Annapolis Naval Academy.

Father Munday of Anthony, who  
visited here last year, has resigned  
from his parish and enlisted in the  
Medical Corps of the U. S. Army. He  
is stationed at Ft. Logan, Colorado.

January 20th, the Second Sunday  
after Epiphany, was a day long to be  
remembered by the Cathedral con-  
gregation. On that day the Rt. Rev.  
John C. Sage, D. D. was formally re-  
ceived as Bishop of Salina by Bishop  
Griswold. The ceremony of enthronement  
took place at 11:00. Bishop  
Sage was escorted to the channel by  
the clergy of the District and the  
Chapter of the Cathedral. Bishop  
Griswold received him and conducted  
him to his throne, where he was pre-  
sented with the staff, the emblem of  
his office as Bishop of Salina. The  
Mass was sung by Father McMillin of  
St. John's School. The music, under  
the direction of Miss Grace Wellington,  
was a credit to her and the choir.

At 5:00 Evensong was sung by Fa-  
ther McMillin, Father Botting of Con-  
cordia reading the lesson. Bishop

Sage preached his first sermon in  
Christ Cathedral. His theme was  
"Personal Contact." He spoke of the  
impossibility of physical life without  
contact, and of the necessity of con-  
tact with Christ through the Church  
and Sacraments in order to have spir-  
itual life. That evening at 8:00 an  
informal reception was given at the  
home of Mr. L. C. Staples for the new  
Bishop. Bishop Griswold, the attend-  
ing clergy, and members of the Ca-  
thedral Chapter were present.

Bishop Griswold spoke to the facul-  
ty and cadets of St. John's School on  
Monday morning before leaving for  
his home in Chicago. It is always a  
pleasure to have him at the school.  
Whatever he says seems to carry the  
weight of authority, because, during  
all of those years while he was Bishop  
of Salina, he took a keen interest in  
the school and has probably done  
more for it than any other man living  
at the present time. Therefore, when  
he speaks, the cadets feel that there  
is much back of it.

One of the traditions of St. John's  
is that when a Bishop visits the  
the school, a holiday is declared. The  
tradition was not broken in this case,  
so there were no more classes during  
the day. The cadets are now waiting  
patiently for Bishop Sage to come.

Capt Barker to Latin Student: "Are  
you familiar with Homer?"

Cadet in Latin Class: "Capt., you  
can't kid me, Homer's dead."

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(Pribble as he was just about to get off the seat in a shoe shine parlor).

Jerry (the porter) "Brush you off, sir?"

Pribble: "No thanks, I'll get off myself."

Gable in English: "Friends, Romans, Countrymen—Lend me your ears—"

Weinberg: "There goes Gable trying to borrow something again."

Flanagan: "What's the matter?"

She: "I am—I do wish Father wore bells."

"Some say life is like a baseball game."

"Quite so, some of us make hits, but the most of us make errors."

McKay W. in Geometry class: "Capt. have you a ten dollar bill? I want to draw a circle."

Postage stamps now cost three cents and taste worse than ever.

Instructor to Cadet in bayonet drill: "Do you think you can hit that dummy right, now?"

Cadet: "I don't know, but I can make a stab at it."

No. I. My ancestors came over in the Mayflower.

She: It's lucky they did; the immigration laws are much more strict now.

A gentleman in one of the leading hotels of the country, asked to illustrate the difference between "sit" and "set", repeated at once.

"The United States is a country on which the sun never sets, and the rest of the world never sits."

—Ex.

Capt. Gable has one of those "baseball" mustaches, (Nine on each side).

There's a meter trochaic,  
A meter iambic,  
A meter that's tender in tone  
But the meter that's sweeter,  
Completer and neater  
Is to meet her by moonlight alone.

—Ex.

In Solid Geometry Class—(Solid Imagination Class).

Capt. Morgenstern: "How do you find the volume of a pyramid?"

Hungerford: "I never knew it was lost."

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