

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

The Skirmisher

ST. JOHN'S MILITARY SCHOOL, SALINA, KANSAS

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No. 3

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY A SUCCESS

Friday night, December sixteenth, will be long remembered as the date of one of the most successful Christmas parties that the school has ever had. The dining hall was re-arranged for the occasion and a place was provided for the orchestra.

After a few moments wait, which served to whet hungry appetites, the Cadets trooped in, to a march played by the orchestra.

The sight that met their eyes was one of heavily loaded tables, a glittering, gorgeous Christmas tree. Seats were soon found, with the orchestra and glee club at the three north tables. They were under the direction of Captain Shideler.

Grace was pronounced by Bishop Mize and the Cadets "fell to." During the meal the orchestra and the glee club presented a number of selections which were heartily applauded. Every one joined in singing some of the songs and several groups which shirked were given the opportunity of becoming soloists.

The dinner progressed happily and when the chairs were pushed back and tables were moved to make room for the ceremonies, everyone had a contented look on his face.

Football trophies were presented by the Bishop and then Col. Ganssle arose to do justice to the real event of the evening.

The basket of presents was brought forth and each Cadet was duly presented with that for which he had asked Santa Claus. As each present was accompanied by a jingle which told how appropriate it was for the cadet receiving it, many of the verses were greeted with hilarious bursts of laughter. On several occasions the cadets were noticed to turn red above the ears.

After the last present was given out, the dining hall rang with S. J. M. S. Forever, sung in a manner

Christmas

*"Now my song I troll out, for
Christmas stout*

*The hearty, the true and the bold
A bumper I drain, and with might
and main*

*Give three cheers for this Christ-
mas bold!*

*We'll usher him in with a merry din
That shall gladden his joyous heart,
And we'll keep him up while there's
bite or sup*

And in fellowship good we'll part."

*Thus sang old Squire Wardell to
the Pickwickians a century ago on
a Christmas night as the fire light
flickered on the family and guests.
It is said that the poor relations
applauded the loudest. So tonight
let us all join the poor relations
around the fire of the ever bright
Christmas Spirit and cheer long and
loud for the good fellowship of it.*

which showed the school spirit of the cadets.

The Bishop then gave his blessing, and the Christmas holidays were on.

TRUSTEE BOARD MEETS

The Board of Trustees of S. J. M. S. met on Tuesday, Dec. 14th. They visited the school and had dinner with the cadets. The members present were: Mr. E. A. Hiller, Mr. C. A. Lee, Mr. Fred Utt, Mr. Earl Woodward, Mr. Louis Gottschick, Mr. Hargett, and Mr. Charles Seitz. Bishop Mize presided over the meeting.

OUR ANCIENT RIVALS WIN THE FIRST GAME OF SEASON

Saint John's old rival, Salina High, won their first game of the season Tuesday night when they defeated Beloit with the overwhelming score of 32-5. This looks like some real competition for our team, boys!

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE FOR 1928

Tuesday, Jan. 10—Solomon.....	There
Friday, Jan. 13—Lindsborg.....	There
Saturday, Jan. 14—Salina.....	Here
Friday, Jan. 20—Abilene.....	There
Saturday, Jan. 21—McPherson.....	Here
Thursday, Jan. 26—Chapman.....	There
Friday, Jan. 27—Culver.....	There
Saturday, Jan. 28—Abilene.....	Here
Thursday, Feb. 2—McPherson.....	There
Friday, Feb. 3—Lindsborg.....	Here
Saturday, Feb. 4—Ellsworth.....	There
Thursday, Feb. 9—Lincoln.....	There
Friday, Feb. 10—Ellsworth.....	Here
Saturday, Feb. 11—Salina.....	Here
Friday, Feb. 17—Herington.....	There
Saturday, Feb. 18.....	Open
Friday, Feb. 24—Chapman.....	Here
Saturday, Feb. 25.....	Open
Friday, March 2—Herington.....	Here
Saturday, March 3.....	Open

St. John's has a very hard schedule this year. We have a small inexperienced team but they are willing to work and have possibilities of developing into a good team. The team wants to win and will work hard. They have proved this by volunteering to come back early to start practice.

PANORAMA OF BATTALION TAKEN

The eyes of the cameras were on us the other day when the picture of the battalion front was taken. It seems that cameras are very patient, especially those rotating ones. If they were the least bit sensitive they might start running backwards. Just the same the pictures were good and we all will appreciate one when we are away from old St. John's.

The Christmas Spirit is with those who are remaining at school and the Faculty and Cadets and even the Cook send their best regards for a Merry Christmas and a Joyful New Year to all of the Cadets and their friends.

THE BOWLING TEAM

A new activity has been added to those already in vogue at the school and one which can be participated in by both young and old. This is the bowling team which with the help of Colonel Perkins has turned into a very pleasing pastime in the evenings, and which has taken away quite a few honors in the past few weeks. Colonel Ganssle who is a very good man at such sport has vied with the best in the school and city only to be beaten by Colonel Perkins who took second prize in a contest held recently in this city. There are a few cadets who think that they can bowl and who help comprise the team. These are Cadets Cozian, Jones R. and Ripley E. We all hope that the team will continue in spite of the protests from some of the other members of the faculty and cadet corps and that they can bring credit to the school at every roll of the ball.

A great number of the boys who have graduated from the school have been heard from in one way or another this vacation and we are all very glad to hear from them and wish them the best of regards for the new year.

Those heard from are:

Major and Mrs. Weir
Major and Mrs. Heller
Captain Sanford Small
"Gump" Shaffer
Hal Heaton
Davis Bland
Howard Fisher
Robert McCracken
Billy Shirk
Lloyd K. Gibbs
John and Kenneth Harris
Edward P. Harris III
John Wilcox
Jamison

We hope to hear from these boys and faculty members often and let them know that their news is appreciated by all the old boys and faculty.

Joe Weaver left for Wichita to spend the Christmas holidays with his relatives.

The Owl club which consists of Wallace, Mitchell and Crooks has been pretty busy finding things to do after two o'clock at night. It may be of interest to know that they sleep all day.

THE ORCHESTRA

Under the supervision of Captain Shideler the school orchestra has been picked and the boys are doing fine, and a lot of credit is due Captain Shideler for his work with them. The orchestra was one of the main features of the Christmas program and it was enjoyed by all who heard it. From "Ma" Jones to Niles Moffatt they come and not a one played a "foul" tune. Even Parcell has a part in it with his clarinet.

The members of the orchestra are as follows:

Niles Moffatt—Banjo
Jones K.—Cello
Shipherd—Trombone
Crooks—Drums
Markley—Piano
Thamer—Horn (you pronounce it)
Parcell—Clarinet
Dickinson—Saxophone
Morrow—Violin
Marshall—Violin
Volker—Sax.

We all hope that the orchestra will continue its good work and that the boys will be able to put on many more such programs as they did the night of the Christmas party.

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Poor Moffatt. When a man loses his appetite temporarily he is in love. When he loses it permanently he is married.—Ex.

Gordon—Who are those T. N. T. College girls you have been going out with, Mitchell?

Mitchell—Telephone and Telegraph College girls.—Ex.

Christmas faces will be worn again this year.—Ex.

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BRILLIANT AFFAIR GIVEN AT SHRINE TEMPLE

The members of the Isis Chapter of the Shrine repaid the St. John's Cadets ten fold for the work they had done at the dedication of the Temple, by giving them the use of the best dance floor, orchestra, and refreshments for the entire evening Friday, December 2.

Colonel Perkins' well known circle dances were mixed with dreamy waltzes and near the end of the evening a carnival dance was featured in which everyone was given favors, odd looking hats, horns, whistles, confetti and streamers.

The dance floor, which will hold five hundred couples, was decorated in orange and black with St. John's banners four square on each pillar. While refreshments of punch, cake and brick ice cream with the shrine insignia were served, the cadets and their ladies were entertained by Captain Shideler and Sergt. Moffatt, who sang several popular and original songs that had humorous statements about several of the cadets and hosts. Captain Shideler was dressed as a school boy of the gay nineties, while Sergt. Moffatt impersonated his blushing sweetheart. They ended by singing "Always" for the benefit of Captain Poggeman and his partner.

The dance ended at mid-night. The cadets escorted their lady friends home. Those present were:

Captain Crooks, Miss Loretto Cooper
Lieut. Holmes, Miss Helen Smith
Lieut. Kreipke, Miss Peggy Foil
Lieut. Mitchell, Miss Bernice Clark
Lieut. Markley, Miss Alice Skelley
Lieut. Caldwell, Miss Vivian Coch-rane
Lieut. Wallace, Miss Alice Williams
Sergt. Biggs, Miss Phylis Brown
Sergt. Ripley, Miss June Smith
Sergt. Morrow, Miss Margaret Utt
Sergt. Robert Jones, Miss Dorothy Perkins
Sergt. Prather, Miss Nathlee Coch-rane
Corp. Smith, Miss Avis Keen Rhodes
Corp. Gordon, Miss Jane Clark
Corp. Cozian, Miss Lucile White
Corp. Gilbert, Miss Lucile Millikin
Corp. Barber, Miss Helen Dilling-ham
Cadet Vidler, Miss Louise Paxton
Cadet Davies, Miss Catherine Edmonds
Cadet Coyle, Miss Norma Sabin

Cadet Johnson, Miss Margaret Wilson
Cadet Wilday, Miss Marjorie Haggart
Cadet Brown, Miss Josephine Anthony
Cadet Dickinson, Miss Martha Dodge
The hosts, faculty and ladies, were:
Col. and Mrs. Ganssle
Col. and Mrs. Perkins
Capt. J. F. Barker, Miss Austin
Capt. Poggeman, Miss Port
Capt. and Mrs. McLean
Chaplain Du Domaine, Miss White
Capt. and Mrs. Shideler
Sergt. Hake, Miss Greening
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hiller
Mr. and Mrs. Metz Wright

SEVERAL CADETS REMAIN AT SCHOOL DURING THE HOLIDAYS

Although most of the cadets have gone home for the holidays, there are several who are remaining here throughout the entire time.

These are Crooks, Mitchell, Wallace, Vidler, Davies, Weaver, and Poore.

Life seems to be an easy matter around the school now, for most of these cadets can be found in bed almost any time before noon. Half of them eat no breakfast, but they arise in time to devour vast quantities for lunch. They are all having a good time, anyway they are if you can believe what they say.

LOWER SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

The honor roll for the lower school is as follows:

1. Heath	86.8
2. Boatright	86.3
3. Leaf	86.8
4. Bolte I	86
5. Gordon II	84.7
6. Mitchem	84.3
7. Ahrens	80.6
8. Bolte II	80.4
9. Bagnall	79.6
10. Andrews	79.4

TRACK CAPTAIN ELECTED

Gus Cozian has been elected track Captain for the coming season. He is a dash man and a good one too. Gus went to the state meet last year and he also holds the school record for the 100 yard dash.

Coach McLean plans on starting the distance runners out for track as soon after Christmas as the weather permits.

We should have a well balanced team this year.

JOKES

Johnson—"I have only a minute to spare."

Caldwell—"Fine, tell me all you know."

Mary had a little lamb,
One day she clipped its tresses,
And found she had sufficient wool
For fifteen modern dresses.

There seems to be quite a good deal of say so as to whether Vidler will get what we expect from Canada. Well, he already has his hockey sticks, so the scare is already over.

Crooks, Mitchell and Miss Mitchell will spend Christmas day at the home of Captain John Barker.

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GRADE HOLIDAY COMES AT LAST

On Friday, December 16th, there was declared a grade holiday for the upper and lower schools much to the delight of the boys who had been looking at time tables and sweethearts pictures and who had not prepared their lessons.

The day was well spent in packing and in cleaning rooms for the Christmas holidays which were not very far off (ask any cadet for the exact hours and minutes that were left at ten o'clock Friday morning.)

The following is the list of the fortunate or should we say smart and studious pupils who were awarded freedom from classes:

UPPER SCHOOL

Those excused from all classes:

1. Whitmore
2. Vidler
3. Thamer
4. Smith
5. Moffatt
6. Mitchell
7. Jones R.
8. Hays II
9. Gotschall
10. Dickinson
11. Crooks
12. Cozian
13. Biggs

Those excused from the first four periods were:

1. Wilkeson
2. Ripley
3. Prather
4. Myers J.
5. Morrow
6. Marvin
7. Markley
8. Hays I
9. Hansen
10. Halverstadt

11. Gordon I
12. Eykyn
13. Constant
14. Brown

Those excused from the first two periods were:

1. Volker
2. Morse
3. Kreipke
4. Johnson V.
5. Johnson M.
6. Holmes
7. Frisbie
8. Christman
9. Barber

For the parents benefit the grade holiday is an honor which is bestowed upon the diligent student for the work which he has done in the previous month. The boys who have an average of 85-per cent or over in all their work without a failure in any subject are excused from all seven periods. Those with an average of 80 per cent or over with no failure are excused from the first four periods.

And the boys who have an average of 75 per cent or over and failing in no subject are excused from the first two periods. This method known to the boys and faculty as a grade holiday has been in existence for many years and has proved very efficient in as much as those deserving are the ones who are to reap the benefits and the boys less fortunate are given special attention by their instructors and are ready to go in on an equal basis with the rest of the boys when the holiday is over.

The boys excused in the lower school for a grade holiday are as follows:

- All classes:
1. Heath

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Helen Clarke, Ass't Cashier.

2. Boatright
3. Bolte I
4. Leaf

From the first four:

1. Gordon II (smaller but smarter than his big brother.)
2. Mitchem
3. Ahrens

From the first two:

1. Andrews
2. Bagnall
3. Alfred
4. Hahn
5. Chamberlain
6. Robineau

OLD CADET RETURNS FOR MOORE SCHOOLING

Cadet Joe Weaver returns to school this year after an extra three months vacation.

Joe started school here in '25 and remained with us until the beginning of this year's school term, when he failed to return because he thought that he would rather "loaf." But this paradise of his did not last long; he either had to work or return to school.

We give our heartiest welcome to "Tadpole" Weaver.

JEWISH INSTINCT DEVELOPED

Some of the Cadets have discovered a new way to "gyp" the taxi drivers of Salina. They phone from the school for a taxi to come to Santa Fe and Pacific. This gives them just time enough to trot from the school to that corner, from where it costs them only "two bits" instead of the usual four. Can you imagine who it was?



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BRIGHT BARRACK BLABBINGS

Forty years ago the St. John's cadets would run down to the armory, grab an old flintlock and powder horn and sit up in the tower on quiet afternoons to "peck off the Indians." They gave a dance every Saturday night, which were the "swellest affairs around here." All the Salina belles would put a little powder on their noses and their largest hoop skirts, tell their High School friends they were "stepping out" and then they had to break up the dance when the curfew rang at nine-thirty. They took great delight in making the Cadets blush when they showed their ankles.

Those were the good old days or the "gay nineties" but "it ain't what it used to be." Anyway let's imagine we were going to school then. We would see Crooks and Kreipke up in the tower spotting Indians. Accustomed to the shots Moffatt continued studying. The ferocious "Scot" Markley, "Bullen" Biggs, "Dutch" Gordon, and "Ski" Prather would be starting off to shoot buffaloes. Mr. Barnum was just signing a contract to sell Chief to the school. Strawberry was a prancing colt. Parcell and Davies had to quit bugling as no one could hear them, due to the howling of the wolves and coyotes. Colonel Perkins talked of the Confederates, Unioners and of the capture of Richmond. Colonel Ganssle would hitch up "Doc" and "Pacer" to his prairie schooner and tear off to Kansas City to get the Uniforms. Chaplain Du Domaine had a two seater with a fancy gaited horse. Caldwell mounted "Sox" and rode off to Marymount. Coach McLean wore a big mustache. Captain Jo-ang "Bawker" had a beard and dismissed his classes when "Uncle Tom's Cabin" came to town. The pony express rider was robbed between Denver and Salina and three of Coyle's letters were stolen so we lost track of the days till Christmas. The "Iron Horse" came in every month and we had a holiday and all the stores were closed on that gala day. Pete Holmes was the best two-stepper at all the swell affairs. Jones R was courting Dorothy Perkins. Ripley, Wallace, and Jeannin were the village "cut-ups." "Grump" Mitchell thought we were all "goin' to the dogs" when we all started dancing the "Virginia Reel." Cozian and his chivalrous body guards marched down to the

barbecue. St. John's football team beat Salina 107-3, in that game four boys lost their eyes, two legs were broken, and one Maroon killed; every one thought the game was getting too effeminate. The "galloping goose" was drawn by a horse. Christmas time came and all the cadets streamed out to the Iron Horse or in covered wagons and left the castle forlorn and forgotten for a few weeks.

Wouldn't that have been a great life? We have it pretty easy compared to those days but they had lots of fun. "Maggie" was as popular then as "Sundown" is now. Also, just imagine that the young lady you took to the last dance had long hair and wore a hoop skirt. Jim McDade drove you home in a carriage and the tree that the new boys (rats) bow to now was only a sprout then.

OUT AT LAST

After a long seige of sickness, during which he missed the Christmas party, Edward Ellis is with us again. Ellis is one of our "old stand-bys." He left Monday for Denver where he will meet his parents. We hope that he has a very enjoyable Christmas. We are all very sorry that Ellis could not be with us and we send him our best wishes for a quick recovery of strength and a joyous New Year.

The Skirmisher Board and Faculty wish to give every one their heartiest wishes for a real joyful Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

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BATTALION DRILL REMAINS INTERESTING

Another new feature was added to the Battalion Drill last Thursday when the Cadets, under the leadership of Captain Crooks, did a snake dance to keep warm.

In and out the Cadets went, until it looked like they were hopelessly tangled up, when suddenly they would start to unwind and order would reign over seeming chaos. Crack the belt was also a feature of drill. The motto of the Corps seems to be "Anything to keep warm."

Captain John Barker, Holmes and Caldwell drove to Wichita Saturday morning after school was dismissed. They had a very delightful trip. Of course we need not mention that Holmes carried his picture on his lap all the way.

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A HOLIDAY

On account of the fact that the dance went off so well and the Cadet Corps has been unusually conscientious in the performance of their duties and obligations, and that the school spirit heretofore displayed has been a great credit to the institution and since the officers have been very punctilious in the discharge of their duties to the greatest assistance and relief to the faculty;

Be it hereby respectfully petitioned that if a holiday be considered on Tuesday, December 6, 1927, the faculty postpone school as a worthy reward for the above mentioned excellencies and virtues.

As a more fitting recognition we beg that something be granted that will not soon be forgotten. On the aforementioned date we, the undersigned, be conducted to the rear of the Gymnasium and there be noiselessly decapitated.

The formality of notifying our parents will be done away with as it will not be worth while. All our belongings, such as books, old shoes, pants, jerseys, tops, phonographs, marbles, chewing gum, paper airplanes, old letters, and pennants we dedicate to the school, hoping to preserve the memory of otherwise useless lives.

All the above we humbly petition.

Alfred
Mitchem
Leaf
Heath
Justus
Poore
Andrews
Chamberlain
Dickinson
Bolte I & II
Volker
Webb
Christman
Shipherd
Coyle
Wilday
Hansen
Johnson M.
Eykyn
Whitmore
Green
Stanley
Talbert
Morse
Halverstedt
Wilkeson
Gottschall

Brown
Gordon I
Markley
Jeannin

CAPT. SHIDELER AND FAMILY
LEAVE

Capt. and Mrs. Shideler and their daughter and son Evelyn and Raymond are leaving Saturday, Dec. 24, for Topeka, where they will spend a week or ten days with their relatives.

Peggy—Kreipke takes a good picture.

Henrietta—"I'll say he took five of my good ones.—Ex.

COACH AND MRS. McLEAN TO
LEAVE FOR OKLAHOMA

Coach and Mrs. McLean plan on leaving Salina Friday, December 23rd. They will visit their relatives in Fairview, and Cordell, Oklahoma. They plan on returning to St. John's about the twenty-eighth of December as Coach is expecting the Basketball squad back the first part of January.

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COMPETITIVE EXAM

The First Competitive Examination of the Central Kansas League will be held on January eleventh, just a week after school begins again. Cadet on vacation with very little to do ????? might study a few rules in Beginning Latin; cultivate the warm place in his heart for a Gerund in English; find the square root of -0 in Algebra perhaps with the help of a fulcrum in Physics; and the bear-in that the battle of Waterloo had on the price of cotton in Georgia in 1700, for United States History.

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SWEATERS AND TROPHIES PRESENTED

During the festivities of the Christmas party, sweaters and trophies were presented to those who had earned them, by Bishop Mize. There were a number of sweaters and a second and a fourth year trophy presented.

The men who won Football sweaters were: Crooks, Wallace, Ripley, Biggs, Prather, Morse, Mitchell, Jeanin, Caldwell, Gordon and Bivens. Markley received a gold football as his second year trophy. Holmes ended his days on the S. J. M. S. football squad by winning that coveted prize, the great silver football that is given for four years work in football. A football monogram and a track sweater were awarded to Cozian. Mitchell also received a track sweater.

Honor roll for the Upper School is as follows:

1. Moffatt	94.8
2. Thamer	92.4
3. Cozian	87.8
4. Dickinson	87
5. Mitchell	86.6
6. Gottschall	86.6
7. Crooks	86
Vidler	86
8. Smith	85.2
9. Whitmore	85

Special Honor Roll

Biggs	88
Jones R	86.3

Because of their taking an irregular course Biggs and Jones R. have been placed on a separate Honor Roll.

FACULTY MEMBERS ON THE ROAD AFTER CHRISTMAS

Col. Ganssle will leave for Oklahoma and Kansas City in the interests of the school as soon as the Christmas festivities are over. He hopes to visit all the Cadets in his territory and find new prospects for

the school after the holidays are over.

If any cadets have new prospects be prepared to tell the Colonel as Christmas holidays is a good time to win that coveted St. John's ring.

Captain John Barker will also leave Christmas night for Denver, where he will be until January fourth on business for the school. Take note, you Denver boys, and have some good prospects lined up.

FACULTY ADVISORS NOTE

An amusing incident was noted in connection with this issue of the Skirmisher when Captain John and Cadet Vidler were discovered correcting and arranging script over Waffles and Coffee in the Lamer hotel. Breakfast? That was 10:30.

Much credit is due Capt. Crooks, Lieut. Mitchell and Cadet Vidler for their work in editing this issue. This issue with the exception of Barrack Blabbings was done entirely by these three, the rest of the editorial department being home on vacation.

HAT SHIPMENT ARRIVES

The campaign hats arrived from Kansas City about a week ago to the great satisfaction of the officers of the Cadet Corps. After several hints about the proper method of wearing them, given by Colonel Perkins, the owners made a most snappy appearance at drill to the envy of all Non-coms. and Cadets. The John B. Stetson company makes these hats according to specifications for the officers of the United States Army, and Craddocks furnish the cords and straps.

LIEUT. JACK MARKLEY IS NEXT YEAR'S FOOTBALL CAPTAIN

Recently a meeting of the football letter men was held and they elected "Jock" Markley to be their Captain for the 1928 season. Markley will

play his third year on the team next year; it will be his senior year and we know that he will make a real Captain.

Prospects are very good for a winning team next year as we will lose only seven men out of a squad of twenty-six.

THE SKIRMISHER ROOM

The editorial room of the Skirmisher will be reopened according to the latest reports. The members of the board have felt the need of such a room mostly because of such curious souls among the cadets as to the nature of the news in the forthcoming issue of our widely circulated school review. It is planned to have the room just off the study hall and furnished to accommodate the large amount of business the board handles. Some people have been heard to scoff at the proposed plan but when they realize the importance of getting the most efficiency out of the board in order to compete with the several school papers edited in this vicinity, they will change their views—we hope. Our paper is under new management this year and in trying to put out the issues on time it is necessary to have the peace and quiet for our promising young authors only to be found in a secluded nook in the main building. We hope the cadet corps will co-operate with us by not beating down the door when the board is in conference over some weighty question.

—Anon.

DR. O. D. WALKER PHYSICIAN

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