

The Skirmisher

ST. JOHN'S MILITARY SCHOOL, SALINA, KANSAS

Vol. XII.

MAY 6, 1929

No. 5

CADETS ENTERTAIN AT SPRING FROLIC—WINNER OF POPULARITY CONTEST ANNOUNCED

The Spring Party, which was held in the gymnasium on the evening of April 9th, was a huge success, and was greatly enjoyed by all who attended.

The gymnasium was beautifully decorated in blue and silver. The orchestra was hidden by a bower of flowers, and a profusion of lilac, peach, and cherry blossoms transformed the gym into a huge garden of wondrous perfumes. A gilded arch banked by palms was the cause of much wonder, but when the Grand March came and each Cadet received his lady fair from its portal in the ever-changing beam of a spotlight, its purpose was evident.

Ted Hayne's orchestra was in its glory, and fast fox-trots, dreamy waltzes, and peppy toddles followed each other in rapid succession.

When the dance reached its height, the Cadets assembled upon the floor to honor the newly-selected "Miss St. John's," or Miss Gertrude Moll, of Salina. Beneath an arch of crossed sabers Miss Moll was presented with an elaborate compact, carrying the title "Miss St. John's" engraved upon it. The Cadets then stood at attention and sang "St. John's Forever" in honor of their Queen.

Refreshments were served, consisting of ice cream moulded into amazing shapes, and vari-flavored cakes. Punch was served during the dance from a bower of flowers, and a constant line testified to its thirst-quenching qualities.

CADETS IN MUSIC WEEK PROGRAM

On the evening of May 8th, a group of Cadets will appear in the Music Week exercises at Memorial Hall. The Glee Club, under the direction of Captain R. R. Shideler, will give a 20 minute program of vocal numbers, and after that the Crack Squad will put on their exhibition drill.

MISS ST. JOHN



MISS GERTRUDE MOLL

DE MOLAYS ENTERTAIN

The DeMolay Club of St. John's Military School, on the evening of May 2nd, acted as hosts to the officers of the Salina Chapter of DeMolay. The dance was held in the school gymnasium, which was specially decorated for the event. A color scheme of blue and white, with the DeMolay emblem at the west end and feathery plumes overhanging the windows made the dance a most festive occasion, and many were the compliments received by the decoration committee, of which F. Vidler was chairman. The orchestra was excellent, and spotlight waltzes were the feature of the evening. The floor was in very good condition, and it can easily be said that this was one of the best dances that have been given by the Cadets. The chaperons were Mr. LaVelle Hicks, Col. and Mrs. Perkins, Capt. and Mrs. Poggeman and Capt. Barker.

CADET GROUP BROADCASTS

On April 30th the St. John's Glee Club, under the direction of Capt. R. R. Shideler, went to Milford to broadcast upon the invitation of Dr. Brinkley, owner of KFKB. The day was ideal for the 65-mile drive which started from the school at nine a. m. Capt. Shideler had arranged for the truck and the cars of several of the faculty members to carry the twenty-five musicians. Reaching Milford at 11:15 the Cadets had just enough time to arrange themselves and start their program at 11:30.

Solos, both instrumental and vocal, several choruses, and a talk by Chaplain du Domaine filled up the time allotted to the Cadets. The program ended promptly at 12:30. At 1:30 the Cadets met in the well-known cafe in Chapman where a delicious steak dinner was awaiting them.

Everyone had enjoyed the outing and all were anxious to get back to school in order to see how the program had come in.

The success of the trip was wholly due to the unceasing work of Capt. Shideler with the club members and to the presence of Mrs. A. L. du Domaine at the piano.

The program was as follows:

Program

April 30, 1929.

Glee Club—Capt. R. R. Shideler, Director; Mrs. A. L. duDomaine, Accompanist. "Your Land and My Land"; "Carolina Moon;" "Anvil Chorus," from Opera Il Travatore.

Instrumental Duet—Popular Music, Violin and Banjo; Cadets Marshall and Copeland; "There's a Rainbow 'Round My Shoulder;" "Side by Side;" "Show Me the Way to Go Home."

Clarinet Solo—Cadet Warren. "Serenade," Bodine.

Boy Soprano Solo—Cadet Marshall, "Sonny Boy."

Piano Solo—Mrs. A. L. duDomaine, "Prelude," Rachaninoff.

Greetings—Chaplain duDomaine.

(Continued on page 3)

The Skirmisher

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It is about this time of the year that we begin to look back on our accomplishments; sometimes with pride, but more often with misgivings. As the little passage in the Prayer Book says; "we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things that we ought not to have done."

Always at this time comes the rush to study, to make up the work that we have let slide in the past months; the discipline always becomes better, and the morale of the Cadets is increased. So it will be; as long as the school exists. But why not try to mend our ways, even if only slightly? You men who are graduating this year—perhaps this, the end of your school days, perhaps it is only the half way point on the road to knowledge. You who do not graduate—some of you will come back; some of you will go elsewhere. But wherever you go, whatever you do, let us try and get out of the habit of "putting things off." This is an old story—it has been said and re-said until it is stale; but there is no denying its wisdom. So take it as your motto, and "Don't put off until tomorrow what you can do today!"

THE ORCHESTRA ENTERTAINS AT G. A. R. CONVENTION

The G. A. R.'s at their annual convention, invited the Cadet Orchestra to be present at their meeting and put

on an hour's program. The program consisted of a few numbers by the orchestra and several solos by various cadets.

The boys enjoyed the noon hour very much, and especially the good feed prepared by the Ladies of the G. A. R.

NOTES

It may be of interest to some of the older Cadets to know that we have received a paper from Kenyon College at Gambier, Ohio. Capt. Sanford Small, our former athletic coach, graduated from Kenyon. While he was there he made five letters in athletics and held the State Championship in singles tennis.

Some of the Cadets were lucky enough to attend the dance given by Isis Temple when Bennie Moten furnished the music—Was that a hot orchestra or not?

The school string of ponies has been sold. The Campus doesn't look natural without some of the younger fellows riding around on some of them.

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Capt. John Barker and Lieut. Ripley have been spending their afternoons playing tennis on the Municipal courts at Oakdale Park.

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CADET GROUP BROADCASTS

(Continued from Page 1)

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Mess—Cadet Kintz.

Education—Cadet Caldwell.

Fire Call—Cadet Kintz.

Tattoo—Cadet Caldwell.

Taps—Cadets Caldwell and Kintz

Baritone Solo—Capt. J. F. Barker, "Blind Plowman." "Until."

Cornet Solo—Cadet Davies, "My Heart at Thy Sweet Voice."

Glee Club—Capt. R. R. Shideler, Director. Mrs. A. L. duDomaine, Accompanist. "Sweet Hearts on Parade;" "Melody of Love;" "When the Flag Goes By;" "St. John's School Song."

Speaking of Tennis, it won't be long before our courts are in playing order. A clay base has been laid, and it should be no trouble to keep the courts in good shape from now on.

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WAR DEPARTMENT MEDALS ARRIVE

After waiting for almost a year the medals for the riflemen have arrived.

Every year during the Spring Encampment, all the cadets try to qualify for one of these awards. A score of 198 points is required for a Marksman badge, 214 points for a Sharpshooter's medal and 224 points for the Expert Rifleman's medal. These scores are to be made out of a possible 250 points.

There were about ten experts, fifteen sharpshooters and twenty-five marksmanship medals awarded to cadets. The boys now in attendance at St. John's were presented with their medals at dinner, while the "old boys" at their homes received their's by mail.

SENIOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

The class of 1929 is to be complimented upon their choice of announcements, for they are by far the best-looking that any Senior Class has had for some time. Each member of the class has had some of the announcements bound in leather, and they will make very nice souvenirs indeed.

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THE DE MOLAY CLUB

There are now about fifteen Cadets that are members of the Order of DeMolay, and they have formed themselves into an organization known as the DeMolay Club. While they are affiliated with the Salina Chapter, they hold their own meetings, have their own officers, and conduct their own business in a truly creditable manner. The spirit of the club was shown by the way in which they put on their Spring Formal—It was the best dance of the year; and we wish to congratulate them on the way in which they handled it.

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SPORTS

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MITCHELL PLACES AT RELAYS

At the Kansas Relays held at Lawrence, Kansas, on the 19th of April, "Grump" Mitchell, Cadet Miler and Half-miler, was able to place in both of these events. He placed second in the half and third in the mile. Mitchell also established a new school record in the mile at this race.

Mitchell finished well up in front in both of those events and had he had a bit more experience would probably have done even better. He is one of the Cadet's best men and we predict great things of him in the future.

PRESENT SCHOOL TRACK RECORDS

Pole Vault: Utterback 10 ft. 1 in.
High Jump: Ripley E., 6 ft. 1/2 in.
Broad Jump: Pattison, 19 ft. 6 1/2 inches.

Shot Put: Alderson, 39 ft. 9 in.
Discus Throw: Hartman, 105 ft. 1 1/2 in.

Javelin Throw: Holmes, 140 ft.
High Hurdles: Dickenson, 18.2 sec.
Low Hurdles: Shortt P., 29.6 sec.
Mile Run: Mitchell R., 4 min. 47 sec.
Half Mile Run: Jones R., 2 min. 9 sec.

50 yd. Dash: Pattison, 5.4 sec.
100 yd. Dash: Pattison, 10.4 sec.
220 yd. Dash: Pattison, 24.4 sec.
440 yd. Dash: Jones R., 54.0 sec.
Half Mile Relay: Jeannin, Hays I., Hays II, Roberts, 1 min. 40.5 sec.

Two new records have been established so far this year and one old one equaled. The two new records were made in the half mile relay and in the mile run. Richard Mitchell took third in the mile at the Kansas Relays, running it in 4 minutes and 47 seconds. The relay team also set a new record when they ran the distance in 1 minute 40 and .5 seconds, also at the Kansas Relays. Roberts, Hays I, Hays II, and Jeannin were the men who set the relay record.

TENNIS TOURNAMENT

In an open tournament held by St. John's Cadets, Ripley E. and Stewart have reached the finals and will play their games off as soon as the weather permits. There were a large number of entries in the tournament and consequently the earlier part of it had a number of interesting sets. A

EDITORIAL

In years past very few records of the accomplishments of Cadet trackmen have been kept. We have records now at hand that go back as far as 1922; beyond that we can only guess at the ability of the Cadets of past years. It is to the writer's certain knowledge that the records in the mile run and the javelin throw are far below those chalked up by the cadet Indian star, "Nuche" Grayson. Also the record in the shot put is much below that set by Hartman some few years ago. Just how much difference there is in these records we will never know, and it would be useless to attempt to find out exactly what they were. But—would it not be a good idea to accept the teachings of experience and preserve the records now being made for the Cadets of the future?

As an added incentive for every man to do his utmost, the writer suggests that suitable recognition be made of each man who succeeds in breaking one of the School records.

great deal of interest was shown by the Cadets, and all are awaiting the result of the final game.

The tourney was under the charge of Capt. John Barker. The games were played off on the Kansas Wesleyan Courts, as our courts are undergoing repairs.

BASEBALL SEASON OPENS

The baseball season was officially opened at St. John's when the Navy Club challenged the Army to a game open to all classes. The challenge was accepted and the game was umpired by Colonel Perkins. The game turned out to be a startling success for the Army, the final score being 19 to 11 in the Army's favor.

The game lasted so late and everyone became so interested that the Formal Guard Mount which had been scheduled for 5:30 was called off in order that the full nine innings might be played. The outstanding features of the game were Smith's masterful playing for the Army, Markley's usual cautious game, and the Colonel's umpiring.

The game was received with so much enthusiasm that plans are afoot to have a return game soon. We are

also in hopes that the fair visitors who graced the sidelines at the last game will be present at the next.

CRACK SQUAD ON EXHIBITION TOUR

On Monday, May 6th, the Crack Squad left on an exhibition tour of two days, during which they will drill three times. They will appear before the Lion's Club Convention at Wellington where they will be guests of honor, and they will drill before the students of Wichita and McPherson high schools.

Under the able command of Captain Caldwell, the Crack Squad has had a most successful year. No sooner do they return from this trip than they are scheduled to drill at Memorial Hall, in the Music Week exercises.

PREPARATIONS FOR CAMP MADE

The Cadet Corps will go into their annual Spring Encampment near White's Farm on Friday, May 10th, weather conditions permitting. Full equipment of Tents, Cots, and all other necessities have been furnished through the courtesy of the 161st Field Artillery of the National Guard. The Camp Site is well known to the older Cadets, to whom Camp brings many pleasant memories and associations.

An advance guard will be sent out on the Wednesday preceding, to construct the camp, build a field kitchen, and get the rifle range in readiness. Men chosen for the Advance guard will be selected from the Cadets on the basis of ability and scholastic standing.

The Cadets are looking forward to Camp with keen anticipation, as they always have. In reality, the time spent at Camp constitutes a spring vacation, carrying with it day after day in the open, far away from the drudgery of classes and studies. When the Cadets return they are refreshed in mind, body, and spirit, and go at the tasks of the few remaining days of school with a will that is hard to beat.

The camp has been named Camp Mize, in honor of Bishop Mize.

We hope that this year's record on the range will equal that of 1928, which was a most unusual year.

Bishop Mize returned from Kansas City Monday.

BOOSTS AND SLAMS

(A Colyum by ye Phantom Scribe)

Ye boy from Hugo will now sing "I faw down and go BOOM!"

The other day ye scribe was in the study hall and discovered a Kay-det gazing longingly at Marymount. Why doesn't someone set up a heliograph?

And our little drummer boy thought that he would drum once too often.

Why pay four bits to see a show down town when you can see as good a one right here at school—and not always in study hall either.

Not so many have been on squad lately. I wonder why not?

Some of the bright seniors should send announcements to Henry Ford.

'Twas no careless hand that transformed the Gym into a beautiful hall room for the DeMolay dance. What works of virtue are performed for one Marymount girl!

NEW MOTION PICTURE MACHINE

Through the efforts of Bishop Mize, the Cadets have the benefit of a motion picture machine which is to be used to project the films of our new regular Saturday night shows. Two "shows" have been given, and everyone is eagerly looking forward to next year, when we will be on a regular circuit, and will be able to obtain the very latest pictures.

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furnishes an ideal location for the theatre and it is certain that everyone wishes to thank the Bishop for his efforts in securing for us this means of entertainment.

CADETS ATTEND MARYMOUNT PROM

The annual Junior-Senior Prom given by Marymount College lived up to the tradition of its being one of the outstanding social events of the year, and the girls are to be complimented upon the splendid way in which they put the thing over.

The dance was given at the Country Club, and the ballroom was most attractively decorated with baskets of hanging flowers. One of the features of the evening was the grand march, led by the presidents of the two classes and their escorts. Favors were given to the men, consisting of cigarette lighters in the unusual form of a bull terrier.

The Oklahoma Ramblers furnished the music, which was excellent. The Cadets who received invitations are: Hays, Wooldridge, Beal, Vidler, Hockensmith, and Orr.

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FATHER HOWKINS ADDRESSES THE CADETS

Father Hawkins, a monk of the Order of the Holy Cross, who has been conducting a mission at the Christ Cathedral in Salina came out to St. John's and addressed the Cadets on the life and work of the Fathers at the Monastery.

His is one of the four Episcopalian Monastic Orders and has its headquarters at West Port, New York. The fathers run Kent School, a school for boys, at Kent, Conn., and a school in Tennessee for the mountaineers. These monks are allowed to own no personal property and must give strict obedience to their superior.

They must live up to the rules of their order at all times, with respect to their triple oath of poverty, chastity, and obedience. Father Hawkins was the first priest to enter the interior of Liberia. He was sent there in 1924 as a Missionary to the negro tribes and was able to give us a very interesting account of his adventures there.

Mr. N. A. Barker has received word of the serious illness of his father who lives in Caimbridge, Mass.

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CADETS VISIT MARYMOUNT

On Sunday, April 14th, the Cadet Corps was extended an invitation to visit Marymount Academy, and needless to say, a number accepted.

The group, attired in Dress Uniform, left the grounds at 3:00 and arrived at Marymount shortly after. About an hour was spent in visiting the various departments, the Sisters and students acting as guides and explaining the purposes and methods of instruction. The tour of inspection ended in the Auditorium, where the girls presented a most delightful program of songs, readings, comedy skits and instrumental numbers.

The Faculty and Cadet Corps wish to take this opportunity to thank the Sisters and students for their kind invitation, and to show their appreciation for the entertainment so kindly presented.

Col. and Mrs. Perkins were in Wichita Tuesday and Wednesday, where the Colonel went through a federal service examination.

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Blind Date

By Frank M. Vidler

(Continued from March 22)

Walt was well known to most of the crowd, but never before had they seen him at a dance. He led Betty out on the floor, and when the dance was over, found himself surrounded by an eager group of young men, each and every one of them clamoring for a dance with Betty.

The orchestra was, as acclamations from all sides expressed it, decidedly "Hot"; the floor was superb. But after a while, when Walt found himself thinking of nothing but Betty, and Betty found herself thinking of nothing but Walt, they decided that they needed a little fresh air; and so the dance was forgotten as they strolled arm in arm over the moonlit campus.

All about them was cast the magic that only a spring night and a full

moon can conjure. A soft breeze was sighing in the trees, and an occasional cloud racing its way across the face of the moon cast its queerly-shaped shadow on the turf. All the benches were occupied, so at last they sat down on the rim of a fountain, and watched the moonbeams playing hide and seek in its spray.

Walt opened his mouth to speak, and then closed it again. His hand closed over Betty's and a little shiver ran up and down his spine. She laid her head on his shoulder with a sigh, and her billowy curls crushed against his cheek. He felt an overwhelming desire to gather her into his arms, to smother her with kisses, to whisper all his longings in her tiny ears.

He started suddenly, and sat straight up, an amazed expression on his face. Surely this was not the way to act with someone else's girl. He knew that he had loved her the first time he saw her, and that he always would. But—she had worn Tommy's Fraternity pin, and would probably wear it again when Tommy was through chasing around with Connie.

Walt growled at the thought of it! How he would like to get Tommy by the neck, and choke some sense into him!

"What's the matter?" This from Betty, who had been staring at him with wonder in her eyes.

"Oh, nothing much. I just happened to think of something, that's all."

"You looked as if you had seen a ghost! But I think that I know what you were thinking!"

"No you don't."

"Oh, yes I do!—No, I won't tell you—but I am going to surprise you one of these days!"

"I think that you are just guessing, but go ahead and surprise me if you want to."

"All right—don't forget it."

"You'll have to hurry—I'm leaving for home to-morrow."

"Why so soon?"

"Well, you see, I am going to drive, and as the roads are pretty bad, I'll have to start tomorrow so that I can make it by the end of the week."

"But why do you have to get home so soon? Won't I see you after to-night?"

"I'm due at a wedding, or I would like to stay around here or rather around you for a while. My kid brother, the one that graduated here last year is getting married, and I wouldn't miss it for anything. But come on, it's getting late, and we're missin half the fun."

"All right, but don't forget what I said about surprising you. It may happen sooner than you think."

Came the last dance, and all too soon Walt found himself standing on Betty's doorstep, telling her what a wonderful time he had had, and promising to write. He drove home, locked his car carefully and climbed the steps slowly. Tommy was still out; and, Walt thought, would be for some time. Instead of going to bed, he threw the window wide and sat there in the dark, mentally reviewing the evening. He was in love; there was no doubt about it. But—there was nothing that he could do but go away in the morning and try to forget her. Man. What a wife she would make! Finally he went to bed, and dreamed of a

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world in which there were no Tommys—in fact, there was no one except himself and Betty.

It was ten o'clock when he awoke, and the sun was streaming in his window. He was out of bed in a bound, and as he dressed hurriedly, he noticed that Tommy's bed had not been slept in. "Wow! Tommy must be out on a real party! Hope he comes back in time for me to say good-bye."

His trunk had all ready been shipped, and he threw his few other belongings in a suitcase, which he took down and placed on the baggage rack of the car. He went over to a small restaurant for breakfast, and there he met several of the fellows who had been at the dance the night before.

"Hi, Walt,"

"Hi yourself, Bill! Hello, Frank, how's everything?"

"Couldn't be better. Say, Walt, how come you took Betty last night? I thought that that good-looking room-mate of yours had the option on her."

"I guess that he has."

"Well, I don't see how he keeps it. The way he's been treating her, I've been expecting her to give him the air long ago."

"There's more truth than poetry in that, too." Sometimes I think that I'd like to punch his head when I see him stringing her along as unmercifully as he does. But that's neither here nor there, and I'm hungry and in a hurry. Hey, George, Coupla eggs, toast, and coffee, pronto!"

"You betta, Meester Walt, preety queek now." This from the old Italian who had served Walt's meals for the past four years.

Walt gulped his food, and with a brief good-bye or his friends was soon on his way. Arriving at his room, he took one last look around, thinking that perhaps he had forgotten something in his hurried packing. There was still no sign of Tommy, so Walt left a note on the table, regretting that he could not wait to say good-bye, and within a very few minutes he was out on the highway and the little car was eating up the miles that lay between him and home.

He drove on and on, keeping his average between thirty-five and forty. The weather was perfect, and although he had been sleepy, he felt not the slightest desire to doze at the wheel. The hands of his watch (a graduation present from Dad) crept gradually around; twelve, one two,

and still he drove on. Then a broken culvert loomed up ahead of him, so suddenly that he was unable to avoid it. He hit it squarely, and the bump was enough to send the chassis crashing down against the axles. He drew off to the side of the road and got out, praying fervently that he would find no broken springs. Luck was with him, and there were none. His suitcase had broken its lashings, though, and was dangling by one strap. He took it around to the back of the car, intending to put it in the rear compartment.

He raised the cover of the rear deck, and his unbelieving gaze fell full on Betty's face. Like a young tigress she sat there, her eyes blazing, her hair tousled, her face smudged with dust, and her dainty sport dress much wrinkled from her cramped quarters.

"Walter O'Brien! If you hit another bump like that last one, I'm going to get right out and walk!"

"BETTY! What on earth are you doing here?"

"I'm going to a wedding! But don't stand there and gawk at me! I know that I'm a sight, but you would be too if you had spent the last three hours in there." She indicated the rear of the car with a disgusted wave of her tiny hand. "Come on, help me out!"

Walt reached up and lifted her out bodily, and as he swung her to the ground her arms slipped about his neck. She looked straight into his

eyes, and her voice was soft as she spoke; "See here, foolish, do I have to propose to you too? I've eloped with you all ready!"

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