



"Towers of Strength"

# The SKIRMISHER



"Towers of Learning"

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE CADETS OF ST. JOHN'S MILITARY SCHOOL

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No. 4

## FORMER STUDENT WANTS TO FOUND SCHOLARSHIP

MR. GEO. B. SMITH WILL HELP OUT WORTHY CADETS

All over the country live many former St. John's boys who are cherishing sweet memories of their Cadet days and taking an interest in the school and its activities. The Skirmisher takes great pleasure in making this announcement telling how one of these old boys has seen fit to show his love for his Alma Mater. Recently Mr. George B. Smith, who attended St. John's in 1894-1895, and now is a prominent manufacturer of Worcester, Mass., wrote Bishop Mize of keen interest in St. John's and of his wish to do something to help worthy boys to continue at school who might be forced to discontinue their studies due to financial reasons. The Bishop and Mr. Smith have had some correspondence on this matter, and soon the details of Mr. Smith's generous offer will be made public.

## ENJOY CHRISTMAS BANQUET

Amid colorful surroundings and a jolly Christmas atmosphere the farewell dinner was held on December 20 in the school dining hall. The room was artistically decorated, a lighted Christmas tree stood in one corner, and at each boy's place were some candy and a copy of the Skirmisher. Many guests were on hand to help eat the excellent chicken dinner, and to enjoy the program especially prepared for the occasion.

The program consisted of stunts put on by each table. Capt Simpson's table brought to light some fine musical talent in the persons of Cadets deBeque and Firtenberger who played and sang songs on the banjo and the ukelele. Chaplain du Domaine's table was represented by Cadet Leaf who did some clog dancing. The boys of Mr. Barker's group sang songs and Dorothy Perkins from the Colonel's table read a prophecy in which some interesting things about the future of many of the St. John's Cadets were revealed. Bivens, Bagnall, and Blaine Bolte from Capt. Brown's table sang songs, and Coach McLean's boys recited verses which smacked of the Christmas spirit. McKay from Bishop Mize's group played a selection on the harmonica, and Cadet Robinson from Capt. Pogge-man's table recited a piece. Capt. Jeannin represented his own table and read some New Year's resolutions he understood various members of the school were making.

At the conclusion of the stunts Coach McLean presented the members of the football squad with their awards. The gathering ended with a few remarks from Colonel Perkins and Bishop Mize.

## BUGLE CORPS IS PROGRESSING

The Bugle Corps is rather small this year and has not been fully organized because some of the old buglers did not come back. It is made up so far of three old buglers who were members last year and of three others who have joined recently. We have no drummers yet but have hopes of securing some soon so the Bugle Corps will be able to function better.

The members of the Bugle corps are: 1st class Privates Heath and Bolte II; Privates Mattison, Edsall, Poindexter, and Bagnall.



VAIL HALL, ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL

## FOOTBALL SQUAD HAS BANQUET

After considerable delay on account of waiting for the trophy sweaters to get here, the 1929 football squad attended a banquet given in their honor a few days before Christmas vacation.

Everyone enjoyed his steak and all that went with it. After the meal was over Coach McLean gave a very inspiring talk on the past football season and the prospects for next year's season. Following his talk all those present at the banquet were required to say a few words. Colonel Perkins acted as toastmaster.

It is rather surprising how much some people know of what we have done and tried to keep secret. Before each fellow's talk Colonel Perkins brought to light something that caused the person to be extremely embarrassed and rather ashamed of himself. This produced great merriment for the rest.

Following Chaplain duDomaine's talk the banquet came to a close. After the banquet Bivens was elected captain of the football team for the on-coming season.

## ROY H. WALLACE BECOMES ASSISTANT TO COMMANDANT

Upon arriving back to school after the holidays the Cadets were surprised to find that Roy N. Wallace of the class of '29 had been appointed Assistant to Colonel Perkins. Capt. Wallace was a student at St. John's for five years, and at the time of his graduation was a captain and quartermaster.

There are so many calls upon Colonel Perkins' strength that it is well for him to have an assistant. Capt. Wallace who has a room on the third floor of the Barracks makes inspections, gives instructions in Military Science, and at drill takes charge of the boys from the Junior School.

Whitmore of the class of '29, who now resides with his father on a farm a few miles outside of Salina, recently was unfortunate enough to freeze two fingers on each of his hands. Though things looked badly at first we are glad to know Whitmore is getting along all right.

The Bishop has presented the cadets of the Junior school with two sleds. The boys have been enjoying playing with them in the snow.

## CADETS TAKE EMPORIA TESTS

The semi-annual examinations sent out by the State Teachers' College at Emporia, Kansas, were conducted at St. John's on Wednesday, January 8th. These examinations were distributed to all schools in the state of Kansas.

Below is given information obtained from the Headmaster relative to the Cadets making the highest scores:

English I	Elmore and Mattison
English II	Mitchell J. and Robineau
English III	Cater and Marshall
English IV	Beall and Hays R.
Latin I	Shakespeare and Edsall
Latin II	Mitchell J.
Algebra	Robineau and Elmore
Plane Geometry	Phillips and Hight
Physics	Warren and Hays S.
American History	Arnett
Constitution	Warren and Arnett

The classes which had the highest percent for the median were Constitution and Sophomore English.

## ST. JOHN'S RESUMES WORK AFTER VACATION

All good things must end. Vacation has for many days been a thing of the past, and all the boys are back in the harness working harder than ever.

At 5:30 o'clock on the evening of January 6 a special formation was held for the purpose of a check up. Everyone with a few exceptions was found to be present. Col. Perkins gave a few instructions after which the battalion was dismissed until mess. At dinner Col. Perkins said a few words of welcome to the boys and wished them a Happy New Year. That night no study hall was held, but the Cadets were given a chance to unpack and get settled.

The next morning Bishop Mize gave a further welcome to the Cadets in which he offered some advice. He stated that the only way for us to make a New Year worth living was to plan each day ahead and then at the end of that day to go back over it and see just how well we had done the things we had planned. We should make a check upon ourselves and strive earnestly to do these things which we knew were for our own good.

After chapel a short study period was held. Then the boys met classes. School had indeed started in earnest.

## CADETS DEFEAT TESCOTT HI IN SCHOOL GYM

JEANNIN AND BIVENS LEAD TEAM TO FAST WIN

St. John's after being idle for a month returned to the court January 17, to pass and shoot out a 24 to 13 decision over Don Middleton's quintet from Tescott. Jeannin and Bivens with four goals each set the scoring pace which put the cadets into an early lead and held them there. The victory gave St. John's two out of three wins for the present season, the K. W. B. C. and Salina having been played before the holidays resulting with an even break.

The game was notable for Otis Jeannin's scoring eye and for Biven's breaking through to get his baskets. The Soldiers made a very commendable showing. Warren played well in support of the scoring luminaries, while Green played fine all around game for the losers.

ST. JOHN'S—24	FG	FT	F	Pts
Arnett LF	2	0	1	4
Jeannin RF	4	0	0	8
Taylor C	0	0	1	0
Beall LG	1	0	2	2
Bivens RG	4	0	2	8
Warren G	1	0	0	2
Scott G	0	0	0	0
Green F	0	0	0	0
David G	0	0	0	0
Totals	12	0	6	24

TESCOTT—13	FG	FT	F	Pts
Scidmore LF	0	1	0	1
Green RF	2	1	1	5
Hannabaum C	2	0	0	4
Carroll LG	1	1	0	3
Larson RG	0	0	0	0
Diehl F	0	0	0	0
Totals	5	3	1	13

In the second team game the Johnnie seconds trounced over the Tescott seconds for a 16-3 victory. The unusual part of the game was that Tescott did not score a field goal, and all three free throws were scored by Diehle which showed very good defensive play on the part of the Johnnies. Hays S. led the scoring of the game with six points. Roberts and White also made creditable showings. Diehle played well for the losers.

ST. JOHN'S—16	FG	FT	F	Pts
Hays, S.	3	0	0	6
Mitchell, B.	2	0	0	4
White	1	0	0	2
Roberts	0	0	0	0
David	0	0	0	0
Marshall	2	0	2	4
Coyle, L.	0	0	1	0
Becker	0	0	2	0
Totals	8	0	5	16

TESCOTT—3	FG	FT	F	Pts
Eckhart	0	0	0	0
Johns	0	0	0	0
Yeager	0	0	0	0
Carroll	0	0	0	0
Diehle	0	3	0	3
Nelson	0	0	0	0
Totals	0	3	0	3



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## MESSAGE TO OUR ALUMNI

While getting out this issue of the Skirmisher we, the Editors, have had our alumni foremost in mind. In this editorial we want to say two things to you.

The first is that we often think about you—those boys who in past years traversed the same paths, dreamed the same dreams, and faced the same problems as we are doing today. We know that it is you who played a large part in giving St. John's School the enviable reputation it now enjoys. The past is always filled with romance. We see your initials and names carved in various places in this old building. We wonder about those boys who in the past toiled to make the Skirmisher a success, those boys who used to belong to our Battalion and Army and Navy clubs; indeed, we wonder many, many things about you. We know that today you are men, but we think of you as old boys.

The second thing we want to talk to you about is your attitude towards us. We know you cherish pleasant memories of your cadet days, and often feel that St. John's is largely responsible for making you what you are now. We wish that there could be a closer union between you and us. Many schools have alumni associations organized to keep alive the old spirit of fellowship, and to help their Alma Maters to prosper. The St. John's Alumni are not organized as they might be. Could this not be done? Such organizations would be of benefit to both of us. In keeping in touch with your old friends, you would regain many sweet memories, and you could help us to grow and expand. We need boys—the right kind of boys as students. We need your sons and the sons of your friends. If you would work for us, our roster could not fail to increase. Above all, we need your active interest. Wonders could be accomplished if we only had that.

We hope this message from the cadets of today to the cadets of yesterday is in place. We are confident that you as well as we are interested in St. John's and the cadets of tomorrow.

## THE UNIFORM OR THAT WHICH IS IN THE UNIFORM

A cadet walks along the street with a snappy step and his head held high. Many people follow his course with admiration in their eyes. Why is it? Is it the uniform or that which is in the uniform that they follow?

The same cadet attired in ordinary clothes walks along the street. A few may give him a casual glance, but there are none who wonder, "who he is, or where he is from;" he is just one of the many.

Perchance some one of the many admirers speaks to the cadet. The cadet gladly gives a courteous response to all questions asked and the two become distant friends. Possibly the next day the cadet, in civilian clothes is passed by the same person, but there is no recognition in the latter's eyes. He had seen the uniform, but not what lay behind it. So it might appear that many persons see merely the uniform and not the boy inside the uniform.

## WRITING POETRY WITHOUT KNOWING IT

Not many days ago the English IV class while studying Ralph Waldo Emerson was interested to learn the circumstances under which he had written his poem "Seashore." Once when Emerson was taking a brief holiday at the seashore on Cape Ann he wrote in his journal a passage in prose expressing his emotions in the presence of the ocean. When he returned home, he read the passage over aloud and discovered that the whole could be scanned as blank verse. He immediately transcribed it into poetic form and added a few lines, thus finishing the beautiful poem "Seashore."

The boys in the English IV class were also interested in hearing that this was only one among many instances in which unintentional poetry had been composed, and books had been written upon this subject. The class' attention was called to an unintentional flight into verse many years ago by an eminent English philosopher, William Whewell. In one of his treatises he was guilty of the following sonorous sentence which we here put in stanza form, though he himself did not express it this way:

"No power on earth, however great,  
Can stretch a cord, however fine,  
Into a horizontal line  
That shall be absolutely straight."

This old philosopher had unintentionally written a long sentence which later was discovered could be dressed up into the same kind of stanza Alfred Tennyson made famous in his "In Memoriam."

We shall here give two or three other instances when poetry was unintentionally composed. A Liverpool business man after dictating a strictly formal letter of rebuke to a firm from which he had been expecting deliveries of material was amazed to find when he came to sign his name that he had inadvertently dropped into melodious verse. He realized its discovery would certainly destroy the censure he intended to convey so he did not send the letter.

Once an article in the marine news column of the Manchester (Eng.) Guardian started like this: "There is still no news of the party of Jews who left Portobello on Sunday." The writer of this article later had his attention called to the fact that he had written a line of verse in a kind of foot used by many poets.

The Manchester Guardian once produced an unintentional poem years ago when it contained the following headlines over an account of an aeroplane trip:

A FLIGHT WITH MR. CODY  
IMPRESSIONS IN THE AIR  
(By our Special Correspondent  
Mr. G. H. Mair.)

All our lives we have been hearing about people who thought they were writing verses when they really were not. We have now learned about people who have really written verses without knowing it.

## THE PERKINS' TEA

I was sitting in my room one evening;  
The letterman brought unto me  
A small gilt-edged invitation  
Saying, "Bolte, come over to tea."

I knew that the Perkinses had sent it;  
So I went just for old friendship's sake.  
And the first thing they gave me to tackle  
Was a piece of the Colonel's wife's cake.

There were prunes and peaches and cherries;  
There were citron and pineapple too.  
There were pears and plums and berries  
And crust that was nailed down with glue.

The Colonel ran for the hatchet;  
The Bishop ran for the saw.  
A piece fell off of the table  
And hit Bob McKay in the jaw.

The Colonel quickly said "Ha! Ha!"  
The Bishop said, "Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha!"  
Mr. Barker slowly said, "Ha! Ha!"  
Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha!

This little song was sung by Cadet Blaine Bolte at the St. John's Christmas party given just before the holidays, and is here printed by request. The words and tune were made up by a little boy eleven years old, a friend of Capt. Brown's. Bolte changed only the proper names to those of persons connected with St. John's.

## BARRACKS BLABBERINGS

Has Capt. Jeannin any enemies? The other morning he found some particles of buckshot in his cereal.

Capt. Shideler recently told the Constitutional History class that several of the students made 100% on an examination, but he added that this was the total of two or three marks.

While returning to school from the holidays Arnett came to the rescue of a distressed maiden who was without small change in her purse and loaned her fifteen cents to buy a copy of "Snappy Stories." He considered her unusually charming and urged that she accept the small sum as a gift, but the day after his return Arnett received the young lady's check which included a penny for interest.

Warren has a burning desire to travel. He almost wishes he were a crocodile, for then his hide might be used to cover a suitcase or a lady's handbag.

We understand Colonel Perkins gave the chef for Christmas a book entitled, "Concrete Rules for Cooking." We hope he does not try it out on biscuits.

Two of our instructors are taking correspondence courses. But they have nothing on our athletes who are letter men.

"Don't let me stand in your way," said Mitchell II as he made a flying dive for the nearest street corner.

Mr. Barker likes to have the light in the upper hall left burning. The other night while he was groping along in the

dark a rat ran against him. It gave him quite a start, and he insists the creature seemed almost the size of an elephant.

Someone of the kitchen help ought to go to school and study Arithmetic. He does not know what a quarter is for; he always divides a pie into five of them.

Col. Perkins says he is disgusted with Coach McLean for not arranging some night football games last fall. He had it all planned to turn off the lights when our halfback had started off with the ball.

Firstenberger and deBeque wish men would wear long hair as in the days of old. Think of the money that could be saved on haircuts.

Bivens says no one should ever make comments about his nose. None of us know what is going to turn up next.

Elmore growled the other day at dinner because the chocolate pudding was served without whipped cream. He said it would be so easy to provide it. The school could purchase an aeroplane and send Mr. Abbott up with a can of cream to make a few flips before dinner.

In Chemistry class Coach McLean mentioned how scientists for many years had been trying to discover a liquid that would dissolve anything. We wonder where they will put the liquid if it is once found.

We know now why Capt. Brown does not take so many walks out in the country. Not long ago a dog nipped his leg as he was passing a farm house.

## THE ORIGIN OF BASKETBALL

It has been the opinion of many people that basketball is an old game like football and baseball. This is an error on their part. Basketball is a comparatively new game. It was originated just about thirty-six years ago, and the originator is living to-day.

In the winter of 1893 the head of the Y. M. C. A. sent orders to Dr. James Naismith, head of the Y. M. C. A. boys training school, Springfield, Mass., to find a game that would bridge the gap between football in the autumn and baseball in the spring.

Dr. Naismith first attempted an indoor football game, but due to the many injuries received by the players, the game was abandoned.

His next attempt was more successful. He placed two peach baskets at each end of the gym and as many players as could get on the court could participate. This game had two faults. There were too many players for it to be interesting, and when a goal was made it took several minutes to remove the ball from play.

This partial failure had no effect on Dr. Naismith, however, for he started immediately to improve the game. He cut the players to seven on each team. He introduced floor rules and scoring rules. A referee was appointed and the game was divided into quarters. Still the game was not up to expectation. It had a few followers but was far from the other two major sports as a drawing card. The game was too slow.

Different universities began to take up the game and it was improved from time to time until it became the present game of to-day. It is still being improved and gaining much popularity. As high as forty thousand people have seen one game and all universities, colleges, and high schools play it as one of their leading sports.

It is thought by many of the best coaches of the country that basketball will soon replace football as the major sport.

## The Students

Visitor: "How many boys are studying at the Academy?"

Bishop Mize: "About half of them."

## Behind the Bars

Capt. Brown: "Bagnall, give me the longest sentence you can think of."

Bagnall: "Imprisonment for life."

## Our Picture Gallery

## Portrait No. 1

## HANDSOME "SADIE"

Handsome "Sadie"  
Is as cute as can be.  
A remarkably orderly  
Fellow is he.

His curly brown hair  
Is silky and fair,  
He shaves and he dresses  
With orderly care.

No dirt would presume  
To remain in his room,  
He cleans it so neatly  
With dustpan and broom.

He's sure to obey;  
And he puts things away  
Just where they belong  
At the close of each day.

Some little girlie  
How lucky will be,  
When she catches a fellow  
Like Handsome "Sadie."

In the next Skirmisher watch out for the portrait of "Sid" depicting "the terrible thing he did." If you are easily shocked, pass this picture by.

## Wonderful

de Beque: "I'd like to live in Iceland."  
Fishman: "Why?"

de Beque: "They say the days up there are six months long, and just think how big an all day sucker would be."

Mary had a little lamb —  
You've heard it oft before;  
And then she passed her plate again  
And had a little more.—Exchange.

## Fig Leaves

Beall: "I hear you wore your pants out."

Bagnall: "Yes, I usually wear them when I go out."

## Find Stratford-On-Avon

Hays I: "It's a shame Shakespeare wasn't born in London."

Hays II: "Why?"

Hays I: "I said he was on my examination paper."



## JOKES

## Kill Mr. Volstead

For Christmas Jeannin made Dorothy a present of a goldfish. A few days later Jeannin noticed the fish was keeping its head at the top of the jar as if it were having difficulty in breathing.

"Have you been giving the fish new water daily?" asked Jeannin.

"I don't see why I should," replied Dorothy. "It has not yet drunk up the last water I gave it."

\* \* \*

## The Explanation

Poindexter: "Where is the state of matrimony?"

Chaplain: "Why, that is one of the United States."

\* \* \*

## Cheerful Outlook

Mr. Barker: "How many times have you flunked in your exams?"

Bivens: "Tomorrow will be the fourth time."

\* \* \*

There was a young fellow named Coyle Whose sweet disposition did spoil

When the boys said his ears

Stuck out like a steer's.

Gee! how his blood would boil!

\* \* \*

## Fleeting Responsibility

Trees: "Do you believe all the things that you tell me?"

Haycraft: "Believe 'em? I can't even remember 'em."

\* \* \*

## But How?

Col. Perkins: "I'm sorry, dear, but the brakes refuse to work."

Mrs. Perkins: "Then stop the car. I shall get out and walk."

\* \* \*

## Too Severe

Col. Perkins (as he stuck Roberts five demerits): "This hurts me worse than it does you."

Roberts: "Don't be too severe with yourself, Colonel."

\* \* \*

## Heard on the Campus

Elmore: "Is Haycraft conceited?"

Glanville: "Conceited? Why everytime he hears a clap of thunder he runs to the window and makes a bow."

\* \* \*

## In Geometry Class

Capt. Simpson: "Now, Bivens, what are two straight lines side by side, spaced evenly?"

Bivens: "Parking places."

\* \* \*

## Nothing Else

Coach (in General Science class): "Mattison, what keeps the moon from falling?"

Mattison: "I don't know unless it is the beams."

## In Mexico

Bolte J.: "Who won at the bull fight you saw last summer?"

de Beque: "It was a toss up."

Bolte J.: "How often does a bull fighter get killed in Mexico City?"

de Beque: "Never more than once."

The St. John's Ghost  
Part I

By L. G. ROBINEAU

St. John's School often has been compared to a medieval castle. Its artistic towers crowning the great building five stories high loom up like beacons and are visible from most points within a radius of several miles.

What old castle is without its ghost? Something would be out of harmony with things in general if a spook had not at one time or other climbed the school's broad winding staircases and glided along its hollow corridors.

But, St. John's is not going to prove disappointing. It once had a ghost—a very active one which was so clever that it set many persons wondering and caused cold chills to creep down the spines of even the most brave.

Old Isaac, the drunken workman, was really the cause of the whole bewildering affair. When the foundations of the school were being dug way back in 1886, the old man was careless enough to venture out upon some newly blasted earth. The result was a cave-in, and he and his wheelbarrow were swallowed up. His companions never could forget his screams when he realized his doom nor the look of terror in his bloodshot eyes—so red and such wells of intensity. His cries seemed to mingle with the fierce wind at that time sweeping down from the plains to the north. For months afterwards as the high walls of St. John's arose and the large rooms and graceful towers took form, several of the superstitious workmen often imagined they heard old Isaac's screams in the strong winds which blew incessantly.

\* \* \*

Captain Decimal, the Headmaster of St. John's, simply could not sleep that windy night. Something had aroused him just as he was dozing off—he was under the impression he had heard the bedroom door of the Commandant's daughter, Una, open and close. But, he was not sure. His mind began to wonder over many things. He thought of his own motherless daughter, Octave, eighteen years old—her bold imprudent ways, her familiarity with the cadets, her infatuation for one of the student officers, Captain Leo, and her hatred for Una who had won the young man's favor. Why could not the two girls of so nearly the same age be on good terms?

"Help! Help!" Capt. Decimal sat up in bed and fingered his grey moustache. Were those actual cries or merely the product of his own imagination?

"Help! Help!" There could be no mistake. The cries came from somewhere below. But, all was silence when he looked out into the hallway. Descending the great staircase, he found all peaceful there. The Headmaster returned to bed, feeling much provoked with everything in general.

"Who's there?" Capt. Decimal who had heard someone creeping in the hallway opened his door and called out. It seemed to him he saw something dash down the corridor. He peered into the darkness and saw a figure in white standing in the far end of the hall. The head seemed to have an unnatural glow and was partially covered with a hood. The Captain noticed par-

ticularly the grey beard and the eyes which in their extreme redness seemed like coals of fire. A feeling of fear took possession of him as he thought of old Isaac, the drunken workman who had perished just three years before. The Headmaster's short thin legs were shaking but he had strength enough to totter to the bedroom door of Col. Nemo, the Commandant, and knock loudly.

\* \* \*

"You see, Capt. Decimal," said Col. Nemo the next morning after breakfast, "you must have had a nightmare. I hope daylight has brought you to your senses. Last night in our inspection we found everything as usual; the cadets were all in their places and the teachers' quarters seemed quiet. Surely you will admit your mistake. Your nerves are bad, and you should rest up for a few days. Do you still think we ought to tell the Bishop about it?" The jovial Colonel smiled as he looked into the face of the pale little Headmaster.

"I know what I am talking about," declared Capt. Decimal, "but possibly it is best not to worry the Bishop, at least at—"

"Worry me about what?" asked Bishop Boniface as he entered the room; "And by the way, Colonel, someone was prowling around last night. See what I have found in the hallway. A piece of card board upon which the letter 'I' has been burnt. What a queer looking thing! Capt. Leo found one like it not far from his bed. He says he is sure it wasn't there when he went to sleep."

Both Col. Nemo and Capt. Decimal looked at the card. A creepy feeling ran down the Headmaster's spine as he thought again of old Isaac.

Cadet de Beque will write the next installment of "The St. John's Ghost." You will meet for the first time the wayward Octave and renew acquaintance with Una and Leo whom Sgt. Marshall introduced to you in his story in the December Skirmisher entitled "The Locked Tower." Of course, the ghost will stir up some more excitement.

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### "THE SCHOOL I LEFT BEHIND ME"

When you cadets were home during the holidays, getting your fill of all the good things to eat mother could set before you, burning gasoline day and night in dad's car, having dates with the prettiest girls in town all of whom fell for your "nifty" uniforms, and doing various and sundry things too numerous to mention, I wonder whether you ever stopped to think of the old school and what was going on there during your absence. But the old school was still in existence, a few unfortunate teachers and boys were still on hand, breathing the same old air, gazing at the same old views, and traversing the same old paths. Of course things were very different. St. John's was not St. John's without a demerit squad and a superabundance of teachers' frowns and boyish laughter and growls.

All of the teachers were away for a part of the holidays. The five boys staying at school the entire time were Jeannin, David, White, Ben Mitchell, and Jim Mitchell. Bixby was here for several days, but he spent Christmas with relatives at Great Bend.

It was indeed a luxury for the boys to be able to stay up and sleep as late as they pleased. Ben Mitchell won the championship sleeping contest, for if he was down to lunch, he did well. David got work during the Christmas rush at the post office, and some of the other boys found odd jobs to do around the school.

While money lasted the boys frequented the movies but when it was gone, they enjoyed the little pool table Bishop Mize gave them for a Christmas present. They also played basketball in the gymnasium to pass away the hours. One afternoon the Bishop took them for a long ride in his car.

On Christmas eve the boys were invited to a social gathering in the Colonel's quarters and to receive gifts Santa Claus had left for them.

Thus the Christmas vacation passed on the campus. And I wager to say you boys who were among your dear ones and friends did not once think of the old school and those left behind!

## ALUMNI NOTES

By Capt. R. R. Shideler

To the many "Old Boys" whom I have seen recently or with whom I have had some direct communication:

Capt. W. M. Brown, Faculty Advisor of the Skirmisher and Sgt. G. F. Warren, Editor-in-chief, have graciously consented to giving some space for Alumni notes in the January issue. I promised many of you old boys whom I saw during the Christmas Holidays, I would gather together all the material available for such a special edition. My trip to Denver was indeed a happy one. The enthusiasm, loyalty and fine spirit manifested by each old boy whom I met, helped to make it so. We want to keep in touch with you and we want you to keep in touch with us. I can imagine hearing each of you saying, "My days at St. John's were the happiest I have experienced." We hear that quite often.

If you run across another old boy whom we haven't heard from for a long time send us his address, tell him to write us. It doesn't take much time and effort to write, and oh, the fun and joy it will bring.

"Grump" Mitchell, Major Richard Roberts, class of 1929, is now enrolled at the University of Colorado at Boulder. His home address is Monte Vista, Colo. "Gump" was enrolled at St. John's for five years and took part in all athletics. Grump's two brothers Jim and Ben are enrolled and in attendance at school.

"Scotty" Markley, Captain Jack, 1114 Grand Ave., Laramie, Wyo., is attending the University of Wyoming at Laramie. He made the freshman football team. Jack attended St. John's four years, graduating in the class of 1929.

Capt. Roy H. Wallace, "Wallie", is at the present time stationed at the School, assisting Col. Perkins with some of his many detail duties.

Lieut. Waite Smith, 2218 Ash St., Denver, is attending the University of Virginia, where he is entered in the Engineering School. Last year Waite was Editor-in-Chief of the Skirmisher.

Lieut. Paul Whitmore, "Gif", is now located at Salina and is assisting his father with the cattle business. He visits school quite often.

Sergeant John G. Myers, "Eva", is attending school at the Westminster College, Salt Lake City, and can be reached at his home address, Bingham Canyon, Utah.

Wm. R. Talbert of Columbus, Nebr., is now enrolled at the Wentworth Military School, taking junior college work. Talbert attended St. John's the years 1927-28 and 1928-29.

Lieut. Edward Payson Ripley, class of 1929, attended St. John's for seven years and is now enrolled at the University of Kansas at Lawrence. His address is Phi Kappa Psi Chapter House, Lawrence, Kans. Edward visited the School during the Thanksgiving vacation and is very enthusiastic about his college work. His brother Charles is in the navy and is on his way to the Philippines.

Major Barringer R. Crooks, 3511 Park Blvd., San Diego, Calif., is actively engaged with his father in the manufacture of construction materials. Robert was enrolled at St. John's for eight years and graduated with the class of 1928. St. John's hasn't released its adoption papers on Bob as yet, and trust it never will.

Lieut. Everett B. Biggs, "Bullen", class of 1928, is now located at Oklahoma City. His address is 3012 N. Robinson, Apartment 6. He was married Christmas morning to Miss Mildred Nutland, of Glasco, Kansas. The marriage took place at the home of the bride's parents. Bullen is doing accounting work. He had a great deal of practical experience while here at school by assisting in the office.

Lieut. E. Allen Thamer, class of 1928, located at 2245 Dexter St., Denver, Colo., is enrolled at an Art School in Denver. He spends his spare time working on the tramway. Thamer is remembered for his

ability as a musician. He played the euphonium well.

Sergeant Gus Cozian, class of 1928, located at 2718 W. 28th Ave., Denver, Colo., has entered business with his father in the Cozy Bread Company. Part of Gus' work is to arrange routes for the different drivers. He is also contact man with merchants. He is still the same "jolly" Gus.

Sergeant Kenneth R. Jones, "Ma", of Lafayette, Colo., class of 1928, has been working with the Western Union Telegraph Company in Salida, Colorado, as a lineman. "Ma" is missed a great deal; especially in the Junior school.

Sergeant Wm. R. Gordon, "Dutch", class of 1928 is working for Fiskel Buick Motor Co., Denver. "Dutch" expects to resume his work at C. U. next fall. Eugene Gordon, a brother of William's, is spending the winter with his mother in Arizona.

Maj. Bruce N. Edwards, "Jew", class of 1927, is now Assistant Manager of the Swastika Hotel at Raton, New Mexico. He enjoys his work very much. "Jew" attended St. John's for four years and was active in all phases of the school life. The "Vivacity" of school was especially notable while he was here.

Sergeant Maj. Lloyd K. Gibbs, "Kayo", is working with the telephone company at Phoenix, Ariz. "Kayo's" address is 1640 W. Washington, Phoenix, Ariz. He will be remembered as being musically inclined and spent much of his spare time at a music store.

Sergeant Chas. Elkins, "Snapper", class of 1927, is working with the Tritz Wholesale Hardware Co., in Denver. His engagement to Miss Mildred Anderson has recently been announced. Snapper hasn't forgotten the importance of a small town in western Kansas.

Sergeant Robert Paul Jones, "Gimme", who graduated in the spring of 1927, is now located at Omaha, his home address being 2604 Marcy. The faculty of the School was remembered by "Gimme" at Christmas time with a beautiful Christmas card. "Good Luck," Gimme.

Corp. Bodine Bismuke, formerly of Casper, Wyo., keeps warm by his work with the Frigidaire Company in Denver. Bodine is married and has established his home at 1330 Marion St., Denver.

Niles Moffatt of Kinsley, Kansas, class of 1927, has been studying music at the Horner Institute, Kansas City. He is at home this winter, due to the severe illness of his mother. We trust she is better by this time.

Maj. Lyman G. Linger, "Limo", of Hooper, Colo., Battalion Commander of the year of 1926, is now attending the Colorado Agricultural College at Fort Collins. "Limo" attended the Colorado College at Colorado Springs for two years previous. Lyman hails from Hooper in the

(Continued on Page 5)

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## ALUMNI NOTES

(Continued from Page 4)

famous San Luis Valley. Linger Longer, Lymen.

Capt. Shirley F. Cronin, 2849 Clermont, Denver, Colo., class of 1926, was married New Year's Eve to Miss Eleanor Valentine, also of Denver. Shirley is established in business. Congratulations, Shirley, and best wishes to the bride.

Capt. Gifford Jamison, "Nutsie", attended St. John's for four years and graduated in the Class of 1926. He is assisting his father in the managing of a large ranch in New Mexico.

Lieut. Warren G. Utterback, "Nespit", Class of 1926, has a position with the Santa Fe Railroad Company and is located at Newton, Kansas. His address is 415 East Broadway. Utterback attended St. John's for four years and will be remembered for his excellent work in track and basket ball. Warren visited the School during the holidays.

Lieut. J. Mac Abbott, "Mac", Class of 1926, is now Quartermaster of the School. He has served in this capacity for the past two years. Mac's hobby is "Radio."

Sergt. Charles E. Blunt, "Chuch", Class of 1926, is working in the First National Bank in Denver. His home address is 1019 Downing. His engagement to Miss Shirley Nemins has recently been announced. Let us know when the event takes place. "Chuck."

"Cliff" Alderson, Sergt. Clifford W. Alderson, of Lafayette, Colo., has entered the retail shoe business with his father at Lafayette. "Cliff" graduated with the Class of 1926. Cliff did fine work in athletics.

Sergt. Jefferson S. Schlesinger, graduating with the Class of 1922, formerly of Salt Lake City, is one of Salina's established citizens and for the past several years has been head chemist for the H. D. Lee Flour Mills. "Jeff" is happily married and has a nice home.

Rinaldo Shipherd, who was enrolled at St. John's for several years, is working with the First National Bank of Denver. He has been there several months now and enjoys his work a great deal.

Allyn R. Reese, Class of 1926, has been doing a great deal of concert singing in the past few years. He is heard over the radio at KFEL Monday and Thursday evenings from 7:15 to 8:30. Allyn took first place in a bass solo in the Central Kansas Music Contest in the years 1925 and 1926. Any of the old boys who are getting KFEL be sure to tune in on these nights and have the thrill of listening to an old schoolmate. His home address is 3221 Stuart. Allyn is working with The Baldwin Piano Co.

Sergt. Herbert W. Hake, "Herby", Lafayette, Colo., spent his Christmas vacation at home with his parents. "Herby" is working in Nebraska. He visits Salina quite frequently.

Maj. Robert McCracken and Lieut. Dennis Phillips, who both attended School for four years, are operating a mine just out of Boulder, Colo. Their mail address is Crisman, Colo. These two boys have been working together for many months and never forget their many happy experiences at St. John's. Denny's brother Oliver, has been enrolled at St. John's for the past three years.

Harry Kintz stopped in Salina at Christmas time on his way to Leavenworth, Kansas, where he is taking special preparatory work towards his entrance at West Point next May. Harry has received his appointment and is working hard that he may have no difficulty with the entrance examinations. Kintz was bugler for the Crack Squad for several years. We wish him success in his appointment.

Kenneth Gregory Poore, who has been in attendance at the School for the last two years, has enrolled at a special electrical

school in Chicago. We feel quite sure Kenneth will make a success in this special line of work, as he has always been so enthusiastic about it.

Gilbert R. Smith, who graduated with the Class of 1926, is now on the reporting staff of the Journal-Post at Kansas City, Mo. His father, Capt. Smith, is one of the officials for the Hendrie & Bolthoff Manufacturing and Supply Company at Denver. St. John's has had several boys whose fathers worked with the Hendrie & Bolthoff Co.

Capt. Chas. Lydon Lippincott, who graduated with the Class of 1922, is now in Los Angeles, his address being 1348 W. 41st Place. Lippincott's father is also a Hendrie & Bolthoff Manufacturing & Supply man. Lippincott is very enthusiastic about the School and we hear from him quite often.

John Kinkel, formerly of Fort Morgan, Colo., but now located in Denver at 1446 York St., is working with the K & B Packing Co. John is another one of our old boys whose marriage has been announced to take place in the very near future.

Capt. Ralph Caldwell, graduating with the Class of 1929, retained Salina as his home. He is working with the Ideal Cleaners and can be reached at that address. "Deg's" hobby is his saxophone and much of his spare time is put in that way.

Sergt. Wilmer Hansen, "Olaf", Class of 1929, is working with the C. B. & Q. Railroad and can be reached at 666 Ogden St., Denver, Colo.

Sergt. Donald Edward Marvin, "Pedro", who attended St. John's for three years, graduating with last spring's class, is now enrolled at the University of Washington at Seattle.

Thos. W. Davies, "Brigham", of Salt Lake City, Utah, is attending school at home this winter. Each year at Thanksgiving time the School receives a large quantity of the nice Pascal celery for which Salt Lake is noted. The last two years Tom attended St. John's he gained prominence for his cornet solo work. His address is 1781 S. Fifth St.

To the boys who were enrolled in the years 1924-25 and 1925-26 the name of Sawyer will be familiar, as there were three brothers enrolled at that time. Almon, Samuel and Mose. They will be remembered especially for their fine work in athletics.

Recently we had a letter from Samuel Sawyer from Wetumka, Okla., Box 794, requesting that he be put on the mailing list. He enclosed his check for the necessary subscription price.

Richard G. Poindexter, who graduated with the Class of 1923, is now nearing the completion of his Doctor's Degree at Harvard University. His address is 25 Perkins Hill, Cambridge, Mass. "Rich-elieu" was enrolled three years at St. John's and his brother, Sterling, is in attendance at the School at the present time.

A good many years ago a cadet attended the School by the name of Harry G. Shortt, of Bellevue, Kansas. Mr. Shortt graduated 1895. Three of his sons have been in attendance at St. John's. James Short graduated in the spring of 1923. He is one of the younger successful farmers living out at St. Mary's, Kansas. Another son, Capt. Philip E. Short, "Phil", graduated with the Class in the spring of 1927. He had attended school three years and is now enrolled at Washburn College, Topeka. A third son, Giltner Short, attended School for two years and will be remembered as "Tiny". Mr. Short is a proud booster of St. John's.

Dr. C. M. Linscott of 5201 Swift Ave., St. Joseph, Mo., who attended school at St. John's in 1895-96, was a visitor of the School January 12. Dr. Linscott has a brother, S. S. Linscott of Galesburg, Kan-

sas, who also attended school here in the same year. Dr. Linscott roomed in the northeast corner of the room which is now used for the quartermaster's store room.

Paul Jeannin, whose brother Otis Jeannin, is the present Battalion Commander, is at Thatcher, Colo., and is foreman of a ranch at that place. He will be remembered by the name of "Trinipop."

Roy Doron, "Granny", attended school for three years, graduating with the Class of 1925. Roy is employed with his father in the Doron Coffee Company at 1749 Market. He is another old boy who has established his home and assumed the responsibilities of a man.

Capt. D. Kermit Farnsworth, "Cady", Class of 1927, is now living in Denver at 2327 E. Evans. Denny attended St. John's for four years and visits the School every chance he gets.

Jack Degman, enrolled in 1926-27 and 1927-28, is working for Uncle Sam on the great ocean highway. However, his home address is 782 S. Vine St., Denver. Mail will be forwarded from that address to him.

It was my very happy privilege to call on Ralph F. Walker, who is with Otis & Co., in Denver. His home address is 2558 Dahlia St. I spent an hour or more in Mr. Walker's office and thoroughly enjoyed my visit with him. Upon returning to School I have looked up Mr. Walker's record and the findings are as follows: "Musician '11, '12; Chief Musician '12, '13; Second Lieutenant '13; Full Back Football '12; Catcher Baseball '13; President Athletic Association '12, '13; Secretary and Treasurer Tau Delta Phi '11, '12, '13; Editor-in-Chief St. John's Annual '13; Manager Dances '12, '13; Cast of the School Play '13."

In the Class Prophecy of 1913, we find the following regarding Mr. Walker: "Walker—Married three times in as many years. Known in Chicago where he resides as the "Reno Kid." He is employed by the New York Central R. R. in the

(Continued on Page 6)

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### CADETS DEFEAT DELPHOS AFTER HARD FIGHT

With Jeannin's scoring as a very important item, St. John's defeated Delphos on January 21, 25 to 14. Delphos hopped away to a lead of 8-0, and then the lead was held to six points while the Cadets were gathering all their points.

Jeannin scored 17 points, eight field and one free basket. Arnett and Bivens split the remaining eight between them.

Morrison, guard, and Cain and Warren, forwards, did the bulk of Delphos' scoring.

At the out set the invaders hit two long field goals, and when the Cadets made five fouls in the opening period, four were turned into free throws for a 8-0 lead. In the final two minutes of the quarter St. John's made two baskets, and during the second period pushed into a 13 to 10 lead. The third quarter saw the lead increased to 21-10, and in the last period each team bagged 4 points.

The St. John's seconds won a victory over the Delphos seconds—a score of 6-3 with Sid Hays, Marshall and David getting a goal each. Neither of the second teams could find the basket.

### SALINA JUNIOR HIGH WINS

St. John's Junior basketball team was defeated by the Salina Junior High quintet, January 14, at Salina high school.

Robinson was high point man of the game and proved his superior ability on the basketball floor, scoring ten points all from field goals.

White, the Johnnie's center, who played opposite Robinson, was high point man for the losers with four points.

SALINA JRS—14	FG	FT	F	Pts
Olsen LF	0	0	0	0
Buell RF	0	2	0	2
Robinson C	5	0	0	10
Vletty LG	0	0	0	0
Tyler RG	1	0	1	2
Zill G	0	0	1	0
Totals	6	2	2	14

ST. JOHNS 2nd—9	FG	FT	F	Pts
J. Mitchell RF	0	0	1	0
B. Mitchell RG	1	0	0	2
White C	2	0	0	4
Becker LF	1	0	3	2
Marshall LG	0	1	1	1
Totals	4	1	5	9

### OLD BOYS HOLD INITIATION

The initiation of the new boys is customarily held on Hallowe'en night; however it was postponed this year on account of having a dance on that night.

On the night of December 18 the old boys assembled in the gymnasium and prepared to meet the candidates. The old boys had been talking for some weeks about the hazards and dangers that were in store for the new fellows. According to some of the stories they told, a few boys in former years had broken a leg, or an arm, and in some cases had to stay in bed for many weeks. On initiation night some of the new boys were wishing they had mumps so they could escape with their lives.

The new boys had to remain in the barracks and be taken into the gym one by one. Many a heavy heart crossed the few feet between the buildings that night. A few cadets even had to be assisted to their doom. And then the initiation! What went on within those four walls can not be told, but —!

The next morning both the new boys and the old were ready to acknowledge that they had had a fine time, as most of the stories had proved to be false and the hazards not quite as bad as had been represented.

### SALINA DOWNS CADETS

The cadets played their first game of the season with Salina High, December 17, on Memorial Hall floor. St. John's found themselves somewhat handicapped due to the fact that the floor and baskets were new to most of the players, but some lively ball was played when the cadets got their bearings.

The first half of the game went to Salina who scored fourteen points to the cadets' one. Salina had a strong defense, the cadets finding it hard to penetrate at times.

In the second half Scott, cadet guard, started off with making a field goal and one free throw. Bivens then saw the opportunity and caged a basket. It looked for a while like the cadets were going to score up on Salina when Beall made a free throw, but the game ended 15-6 in favor of Salina.

### ALUMNI NOTES

(Continued from Page 5)

capacity of lost article man. Walker is a rising young man and may advance to the ticket selling department. Poor "Fat", he had visions of being manager of this same road five years ago. Women have been his ruin."

We are happy to say that this prophecy has not come true; Walker is a successful young man, has a happy home and is doing a very constructive work with boys in Denver. A little further over in the catalog for the year 1913, we find on the editorial page the following article by Mr. Walker, which conveys his sentiment regarding St. John's: "And so in ending this school year, we bid farewell in the name of the School to all those who are leaving us. Partings from the School always have a certain glamour about them. Those who are leaving are setting out for a new and wider field of conquest, but it is the experience they have acquired at school which is going to give them the power to win, the power to make good. They all know as well as we, that a warm welcome will be given them here, when they come back to visit us, and we may add that the School will follow their career not only with interest but with expectation, waiting the honor that their name will one day bring to us. To those who remain there is a certain task to be undertaken—the work of continuing the traditions, and spirit of the School."

Alumni Notes would not be complete without mention of Colonel and Mrs. Ganssle. Colonel W. L. Ganssle was superintendent of St. John's for many years and Mrs. Ganssle was always a most gracious hostess. They live in Kansas City, Mo., at 4717 Grand Ave. Colonel Ganssle is President of The Old Dutch Mill Corporation. We wish him success in his new line of work.

And so we bring to a close these rambling alumni notes. Much more could be said but space does not permit. Perhaps we have omitted the names of some cadets whom we have heard from recently but the omission has been unintentional. As this is our first issue in the year of 1930 I am quite sure "A Happy and Prosperous New Year" to you would not be out of line. Wouldn't you like to have the paper come to you regularly? If you like this issue tell us about it.—Captain R. R. Shideler.

### Quite Distant

Capt. Wallace: "I am going to visit some of my relatives."

Capt. Simpson: "Are they near or distant relatives?"

Capt. Wallace: "I call them distant because they live twenty-four miles from here."

### LOCALS

Mattison, Shakespeare and Blair have just gotten out of the Infirmary from an attack of the mumps. Boatright returned last Saturday from his home in Kansas City where he had been suffering from the same disease.

Sgt. Wilkeson and Cadet Anderson have withdrawn from school. The former is attending Salina Hi. The latter has to be at his home in Wichita on account of poor health.

When returning to St. John's after the holidays, Cadet Altman brought with him a tiny blue cedar and a pine tree which his parents Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Hamm had sent to the school. The cedar will be used as the "rat tree," the old "rat tree" having died a few months ago.

Mr. Roberts of Denver, the father of Sgt. Carl Roberts, visited school recently.

James Brehmer of Canyon City, Colorado, has enrolled in the eighth grade.

Miss Dorothy Perkins, daughter of our Commandant, who is now a senior in Salina Hi, has signed up to attend Christian College, Columbia, Mo., next fall.

The crack squad has been practicing every afternoon and evening.

Fishman is at home suffering with a nervous breakdown. We hope he will be back with us soon.

Several of the cadets have been skating these cold days on the stream running through the park.

Winter has been with us good and proper. On several occasions the heat was kept on all night, and Col. Perkins, usually considered a fresh air fiend to the nth

degree, advised the cadets to sleep with their windows down and doors open.

A new boy, John King, recently enrolled in the Junior school. He is from Hastings, Nebraska, and is in the seventh grade.

### BASKET BALL SCHEDULE

Sacred Heart—January 31—here  
Bennington—February 7—here  
Beverly—February 11—there  
Lindsborg—February 18—here  
Lincoln—February 21—there  
Delphos—February 25—there  
Sacred Heart—February 28—here  
Beverly—March 4—here  
Tournament—March 7 and 8  
Lindsborg—March 10—there

### Getting Around

Capt. Shideler: "Warren, why have you stopped practicing your music? You have another half hour."

Warren: "I know, teacher, but I played faster to make up."

## Spring!

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fancy turns to thoughts  
of — Clothes — Think  
of,

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