

The Skirmisher

ST. JOHN'S MILITARY SCHOOL, SALINA, KANSAS

Vol. II.

JANUARY 10, 1919

No. 3.

WYBER RATES FIRST

SENIOR STUDENT LEADS THE SCHOOL IN SCHOLARSHIP

When Mr. N. A. Barker, headmaster of St. John's averaged the grades of all cadets after the examinations given just before the Christmas holidays, he found that the highest average in the school was held by Robert Wyber, Brooklyn, N. Y. of the sixth form, with Jefferson Schlesinger, Colorado Springs, second form, a close second. The five highest cadets are:

First: Robert Wyber, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Second: Jefferson Schlesinger, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Third: Davis Bland, Tulsa, Okla.

Fourth: Richard Hamm, Longmont, Colorado.

Fifth: Alan Conner Colorado Springs, Bruce Johnson, Salina, Kansas, tied.

Wyber of the Sixth Form, Conner of the Fourth Form and Bland of the First Form still hold their places as heads of their respective forms but in the other forms there are different cadets in first place. The cadets who won first, second and third place in scholarship in their respective forms are:

Sixth
~~First~~ Form

1st. Robert Wyber, Brooklyn, N. Y.
2nd. Ralph Dodge, Great Bend, Kansas.

3rd. A. G. Oliver, San Diego, Calif.

Fifth Form

1st. Bruce Johnson, Salina, Kans.
2nd. Bruce Davis, Hutchinson, Kans.

3rd. Howard Hayden, Greeley, Colorado.

Fourth Form

1st. Alan Conner, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

2nd. Harold Shellenberger, Gene-seo, Kansas.

3rd. Gilbert Sturtz, Kansas City, Missouri.

Third Form

1st. Richard Hamm, Longmont, Colorado.

2nd. Robert Kirkpatrick, Alamo-sa, Colorado.

3rd. Gardiner Hart, Cheyenne, Wy-oming.

Second Form

1st. Jefferson Schlesinger, Colo-rado Springs, Colorado.

2nd. R. W. Barnes, Kansas City, Missouri.

3rd. Robert Bell, Loveland, Colo.

First Form

1st. Davis Bland, Tulsa, Okla.

2nd. Roy Edwards, El Reno, Okla.

3rd. Thoburn Skaggs, Topeka, Kansas.

PRESENTS GERMAN HELMET

Captain Swerdfeger, Father of Ca-det, Sends Souvenir

A German helmet recently came through the mails as a gift to St. John's Military School. The helmet was camouflaged with paint—and with the French mud. The souvenir was sent the school by Captain El-berth B. Swerdfeger, Medical Corps father of Mark Swerdfeger, a St. John's cadet.

Captain Swerdfeger's home is at 3159 West 38th Avenue, Denver, where he was on the staff of St. An-thony's hospital before entering the service. He received his training at Medical Officers' Training Camp at Fort Riley and was commissioned a first lieutenant. He went to France last June with the 104th Infantry of the 26th Division.

He was in the St. Mihiel advance and lately has been in the Verdun sector. He received his promotion to captain since he has been in France.

ATHLETES REWARDED

FOURTEEN FOOTBALL MEN RE-CEIVE HONOR TROPHIES

Fourteen cadets were awarded foot-ball warrants, entitling them to the football trophies according to their years on the team, at the last meet-ing of the Athletic Board of Control at St. John's Military School. Al-though the season was not finished, owing to canceling of games because of the influenza, it was decided that the fourteen men, should be rewarded for the showing they had made.

The trophies to be awarded are: for first year men, a monogrammed sweater; for second year men, a gold football for a watch fob; for third year men, a blanket.

The men who were given the war-rants which entitle them to the tro-phies, with the number of years they have made the team are:

Third Year

Captain A. G. Oliver, San Diego, California, third year.

Lieut. Ralph Muir, Salina, Kansas, third year.

Sergt. Lawrence Bigelow, Augusta, Kansas, third year.

Second Year

Lieut. Bruce Johnson, Salina, Kan-sas, second year.

First Year

Capt. Alvin Stubbs, Kansas City, Missouri.

Dayle Aitken, St. John, Kansas.

Alan Conner, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Bruce Davis, Hutchinson, Kansas.

Carlyle Fluke, Boynton, Okla.

Ralph Dodge, Great Bend, Kansas.

Howard Hayden, Greeley, Colorado.

Stanley Skilling, Pueblo, Colorado.

Gilbert Sturtz, Kansas City, Mo.

Clarence Wagner, Sylvia, Kansas.

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Davis of Sa-lina and daughter, Lena Katherine and son Boyd, were dinner guests at St. John's on Christmas day.

ARMY LEADS NAVY 81 TO 53

Points Won on Gridiron and in Basketball Tournament

The new members of the two principal clubs of the schools, the Army and Navy clubs, are being watched with considerable interest by the old members to see what athletic abilities they develop. Points won by individual members are totaled for the clubs. The winning team has the right to have the name of its captain for that year engraved on the Army and Navy cup. The Army Club won in 1918 and the Navy Club won in the two preceding years.

Inter-club contests are held by classes. The classes are determined according to weight and age rules. This gives every cadet in school, no matter how young, an opportunity to compete in the year and to win points for his club.

In addition, each man that wins a place on an athletic team representing the school gains points. Men on first teams who win their letters each are allowed to credit five points to the total of their club. Men on second teams each contribute three points to their club's total.

To date, the football team and the eight basketball teams that competed in the recent tournament have furnished the points. The present standing of the clubs is as follows: Points won by Army, 81; by Navy 53.

The clubs are self-perpetuating. New members are chosen each year by the club captains. Captain A. G. Oliver of San Diego, California, is captain of the Navy and Captain Alvin Stubbs of the Army. Lieutenant Ralph Muir of the Army has been acting captain of his club during the temporary absence of Captain Stubbs. The new members of the organization: Navy—R. W. Barnes, Kansas City, Mo.; John Blankenship, Downs, Kansas; Billie Breene, Denver, Colorado; Laurence Clark, Greeley, Colorado; Cecil Cleveland, Salina, Kansas; Alan Conner, Colorado Springs, Colo.; Fred Cordier, Pueblo, Colorado; James Coyte, Denver, Colorado; Bruce Davis, Hutchinson, Kansas; Carlyle Fluke, Boynton, Oklahoma; Ned Goffe, Wilson, Kansas; Kenneth Harris, Eldorado, Kansas; Glen Hepworth, Manhattan, Kansas; Preston Hyde, Reading, Kansas; James Hyde, Reading, Kansas; Brooks Johnson, Miltonvale, Kansas; John McNair, Lyons, Kansas;

Rodger McNall, Sedgwick, Kansas; Gillmore Osborne, St. John, Kansas; Edwin Pierce, Salina, Kansas; Jefferson Schlesinger, Colorado Springs, Colorado; Edward Stinson, Great Bend, Kansas; Gordon Strange, Sentinel, Oklahoma; Gilbert Sturtz, Kansas City, Missouri; Mark Swerdfeger, Denver, Colorado; Clarence Wagner, Sylvia, Kansas.

The Army—Dayle Aitken, St. John, Kansas; Norman Allen, Yuma, Colorado; Robert Bell, Loveland, Colorado; Roy Edwards, El Reno, Oklahoma; William Faurot, Independence, Kansas; Robert Floyd, Trinidad, Colorado; Howard Fulwider, Winner, So. Dakota; Paul Gardner, Hutchinson, Kansas; Rodger Haley, Fairview, Oklahoma; Richard Hamm, Longmont, Colorado; John Hardman, Wakeeney, Kans.; John Harris, Eldorado, Kans.; Gardiner Hart, Cheyenne, Wyoming; Howard Hayden, Greeley, Colorado; Robert Kirkpatrick, Alamosa, Colorado; Lydon Lippincott, Denver, Colorado; Harland Mitchell, Elmont, Kansas; Donald McLeod, Hutchinson, Kansas; Byron Newland, El Reno, Oklahoma; Walter Pattison, Trinidad, Colorado; Belmont Rising, Salina, Kansas; Paul Ritterbush, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Buell Robinson, Augusta, Kansas; Lionel Shaw, Denver, Colorado; Douglas Strange, Sentinel, Oklahoma; Harold Shellenberger, Geneseo, Kansas.

OLD GRAD IN SCOTLAND

A. E. Hilliard, '13, In Consular Service at Edinburgh

Albert E. Hilliard, who was graduated from St. John's Military Academy in 1913, is now in the consular service and may be addressed at Edinburgh, Scotland, care of the American Consulate.

Hilliard was appointed to the consular service last July. Shortly before his departure for Scotland he was married to Miss Florence Howard, of Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

He attended St. John's from 1910 to 1913, holding the grade of corporal his first year, first sergeant his second year, and second lieutenant of Company B his third year. Hilliard was prominent in school activities. He played on the 1913 baseball team, was yell leader, was associate editor of the Roll Call, the school annual for 1913, and in the cast of the school play for that year.

His home is in Denver, Colorado.

WILL SELL AEROPLANES

Lieut. Davies to Curtis Company—Visited St. John's School

Major W. L. Ganssle has recently received a letter from John Davies, brother of Mrs. Ganssle, that he is to be general sales agent and in charge of sales organization for the Curtis Aeroplane and Motor Corporation. He will have his office in New York City.

Mr. Davies is remembered by the cadets of St. John's as Lieutenant Davies of the Aviation Section. He visited at the school while on his return east from leave in Denver, showed the cadets interesting souvenirs and told them of some of the thrills of flying in France. While in France he was attached to the British Royal Flying Corps as technical officer. He was an instructor in night bombing in this country after his return from France.

Fry Now At Davenport

Tinsley Fry, St. John's, 1917, is expected in Salina, shortly for a brief visit at the school on his way to Davenport, Iowa, from his home in Denver, where he has been spending the holidays with his father Alonzo Fry.

Fry was in an officers' training camp at Camp Grant when the armistice was signed. Bert Strom, another St. John's graduate was at the same camp at the same time with Fry.

Fry will be connected with the Keystone Rubber Company at Davenport, Iowa.

Enters Son in School

Mrs. Harriet W. Allard of Manhattan, Kansas came to Salina recently and entered her son Henry in St. John's Military School. Mrs. Allard is connected with the Extension Division of the Kansas State Agricultural College at Manhattan.

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GALLERY PRACTICE SOON

Target Practice To Be Held On Arrival of Supplies

Gallery practice will be started at St. John's upon the arrival of material that has been requisitioned for.

A recent letter from the National Rifle Association, Washington, said that the school's requisition for gallery rifles and ammunition has been held in the office awaiting the availability of material; that the supplies are now available for issue and that they would be sent on return of the requisition.

St. John's is a member of the National Rifle Association, which promotes marksmanship among secondary schools and civilians. The condition necessary for the junior marksman's indoor qualification are as follows:

Eligibility: Open to members of Schoolboy and Boy's Rifle Clubs affiliated with the National Rifle Association of America who are not over eighteen years of age.

Arm: Any .22 caliber rifle weighing not over ten pounds, with sights, other than telescopic, in front of the firing-pin.

Ammunition: Any.

Distance: Fifty feet from end of rifle to target.

Target: N. R. A. 50-foot gallery target, military count.

Number of Shots: Ten shots standing and ten shots prone. Sighting shots must not be fired on record targets. Five shots only will be fired on each official target.

Position: Standing, all parts of the body to be free from artificial support; Prone, head toward target; forearm and rifle must be free from all artificial support. Use of strap allowed in the prone position only.

Qualifying Score: A competitor must make not less than 38 points and 42 points prone, or a total score 80 points of a possible 100. A competitor making less than 38 points standing will not continue firing at the prone position.

Supervision: All shooting for qualification must be done under the supervision of a judge appointed by the N. R. A., who will certify to the score being shot in accordance with regulations. Qualifying scores will be reported by the judge to the N. R. A. on a blank provided for the purpose, such reports to be accompanied by the targets.

Prize: To all those who make the requisite score there will be issued a "Junior Marksman's Lapel Button"

by the War Department through the National Rifle Association of America. All reports to be made to the secretary of that association, 1108 Woodward Building, Washington, D. C.

T. A. Swan, '03, Now In Joplin

Word has been received indirectly from a St. John's graduate of sixteen years ago, Theodore A. Swan, then of Pittsburg, Kansas. Mr. Swan is now in Joplin, Mo., and is president of a machine company there.

He was graduated from St. John's in 1903, after several years' attendance in which he was prominent in school, military and athletic activities. He was winner of the Latin Medal in 1901, received honorable mention in the competitive drill contest in 1903, was captain of the basketball team the same year and played left end on the 1902 football team, which scored a total of 99 points to a total of five by all its opponents.

Play on Salina Team

Two St. John's faculty members are on the Y. M. C. A. basketball team representing Salina, Kansas. They are Captain Charles Cannon, in charge of athletics at the school and Captain Sanford Small, assistant commandant.

Captain Cannon plays guard and Captain Small plays forward. The former for four years was on the five that represented Wesleyan College, Salina and managed the team one year. Captain Small played with Racine College, Racine Wisconsin, and was captain a year.

Games will be arranged with teams representing nearby towns.

Spend Holidays at School

Eleven cadets remained at St. John's during the holidays. Those who stayed over were: Alan Conner, Colorado Springs; Robert Floyd, Trinidad, Colorado; Byron Newland, El Reno, Okla.; Capt. A. G. Oliver, San Diego, Calif.; Parvin and Walter Pattison, Trinidad, Colorado; Jefferson Schlesinger, Colorado Springs; Lionel Shaw, Denver; Mark Swerdfeger, Denver; Cyrus Waite, Greeley, Colo.; Robert Wyber, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Visits School With Son

Mrs. B. L. Stinson of Great Bend accompanied her son Edward when the latter returned to St. John's after the holidays and spent the day visiting the school.

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Byron McNeil, a former St. John's cadet, is now at Cheyenne, Wyoming, where he is in the employ of the Union Pacific railroad.

The Skirmisher

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

Attention is called to the stories and personals about former St. John's cadets in this and former issues. We want to get in touch with every former cadet, not only graduates but every old boy. It is our plan to find out where they live and what they are doing. You may be living next door to a former cadet.

It has been especially difficult to maintain "liaison" with former students because of the war and the consequent change from civilian to army life.

The editors of The Skirmisher make this request: if you are a former student, write us, tell us what you are doing and give us your permanent address; if you know the location of any other old boy, write us all about him, or at least send us his address and we will write him.

It is hoped that THE SKIRMISHER may be the means of many an old boy's renewing his school friendships, which after all, are the best friendships. Write us.

"America Owns Half the World's Diamonds" says a Kansas City Star Headline. With the end of the war, though, baseball will come into its own again.

Those contemplating matrimony take note—all restrictions on the importation of rice have been removed.

Hamm Takes a Big Drop

"Pride goeth before a fall" according to the copy books but it was Hamm here instead.

Cadet Richard Hamm recently was returning to the barracks from Salina, where he had gone to take a music lesson. He had a music roll in one hand, cakes in the other, pop-corn in the other—no that couldn't have been, but his hands were full at any rate. Meeting two elderly persons, he politely gave them the walk. In doing so he stumbled and fell flat. Music, cakes, pop-corn and Hamm were on the ground. A little negro girl who came along assisted him to arise and remarked: "Boy, was that yo' ecclesiastical fall?"

OLD CADET A PRISONER

Lieutenant Millspaugh Released by Germans After Armistice

The following story which appeared in the Salina Journal recently, credited to the Topeka Capital, concerns a former St. John's cadet:

Mrs. F. R. Millspaugh has received word that her son Lieut. Clarkson Millspaugh, who arrived in New York the first of the week and had thought that he might be able to return to Topeka quite soon, has been sent to Camp Dix, N. J. and may be detained there for several days. Mrs. Millspaugh received a telegram from her son Sunday telling her of his arrival in New York and naming the hotel where he might be found. On Monday she was able to communicate with him by long-distance telephone.

Lieutenant Millspaugh, who served with the Twenty-sixth New England division, was on the line of action for seven months, and was finally taken prisoner by the Germans. He was released after the signing of the armistice.

Lieutenant Millspaugh was graduated from St. John's Military School in 1907. He was captain of the tennis team one year, played left tackle on the football team and was a cadet lieutenant in Company B.

Mrs. J. Carver Jones of Columbia, Mo., and her daughter, Miss Pauline, were guests of Mrs. Maurice Hicklin at St. John's during the holidays. Miss Pauline Jones, who is instructor in French and Spanish at Lindenwood College at St. Charles, Mo., has returned to the college. Mrs. Jones remained for a more extended visit with her daughter, Mrs. Hicklin.

Cadets Hold Guard-Mount

Members of the military science had both a written and practical examination at the close of their second six-week period. Several days before the written test, they were given charge of the cadets at drill and told to hold a formal guard-mount. They drew for places. Lieutenant Muir was adjutant, Ralph Cramm sergeant-major, Howard Hayden, commander of the guard. The others were non-commissioned officers in charge of the various details that were marched on.

Mrs. Nannie Newland of El Reno, Oklahoma, visited her son Byron Newland at St. John's during the holidays.

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Has Pound For Lost Articles

St. John's has a "pound." This is not an inclosure for stray cattle or dogs, but for stray hats and other belongings of the cadets. It had been a problem to keep some of the cadets, especially the smaller ones, from losing their property. Hats were found in the mess hall, on the parade ground, in study hall—anywhere the cadet happened to be. Then when time came for formation there was grief. Now when anything is left through carelessness, it is taken to the office and a cadet penalized before he receives back his property. Cadets also have the right to impound instructor's property they find out of place—which may prove disastrous to absent-minded professors.

Cadets Obtain Credit

After the desired "pep" in the squad rushes in skirmish drill in Company A recently did not appear, Captain Small promised three merits to each member of the squad that made the most life-like rush.

Each squad was out for blood; they hurled themselves through the air as if they were trying to gain cover under fire. On the first attempt Corporal Conner's squad and Corporal Hayden's squad tied, with the latter finally winning out and gaining the three merits each.

Members of the winning squad were: Corporal Howard Hayden, Cadets Norman Allen, Dayle Aitken, Carlyle Fluke, Glen Hepworth, C. L. Lippincott, Rodger Haley.

Weinberg Calls At School

Clarence E. Weinberg, a former St. John's cadet, made a short visit at the school on his way to his home at 3404 Holmes street, Kansas City. He was on furlough from the navy. Weinberg enlisted August 1, 1918. He was trained and afterward stationed at Goat Island, San Francisco. His rating is hospital apprentice, first class. He has made application for discharge.

Voiland Back at St. John's

Thomas Voiland, 905 North Van Buren, Topeka, Kansas has returned to St. John's Military School, entering for the work immediately after the holidays. Cadet Voiland was in school here last year. He is the son of Fred Voiland, president of the Topeka Rotary Club.

Mr. Voiland, senior, is now in France with the Y. M. C. A.

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WHAT ONE GIRL CAUSED

Pretty Country School Teacher Conquers Military Science Class

Captain A. G. Oliver, Sergeant Ralph Dodge and Corporal Howard Hayden recently were forced to walk two miles when they only should have walked one. It came about in this way.

The military science class, of which they are members, was "hiking" down the road east of the school house in single file, about ten yards apart, finding out how many paces they took in a mile. This is part of the preliminary training for map drawing, as it is necessary to know the length of your pace. This is gotten by pacing a known distance, counting your steps and dividing the number of them into the distance reduced to inches.

In spite of invitations to ride, the cadets kept their attention on the counting. All went well until they were on the return trip. About a half mile from St. John's there is a little country school. As the three cadets mentioned above passed the school-house on their return, the pupils had been given recess, the pretty school teacher just happened to come outside and the three cadets just happened to look up.

Just what happened is not known but this much is certain. All three kept on walking,—but suddenly awakened to the fact they had stopped counting paces. Consequently, they had to do the half-mile over again. This time recess was over, there was no pretty school teacher and no one of the three lost count.

Are Playing Soccer Now

A punctured football has temporarily disbanded the soccer football team. St. John's does not claim to have the best soccer football teams in the country but it does think it has the two largest—for there were about forty on each side in the last game. Enthusiasm made up for lack of skill.

It is planned to have a soccer team to represent each of the two school clubs, the Army and the Navy. Mr. N. A. Barker of the faculty played the game in the East and probably will assist Coach Cannon in whipping the two teams into shape.

Sergeant of the Guard: "Coyte, you seem to be keeping up with the squad much better today."

Cadet Coyte: "I had a hair-cut this morning and I haven't such a load to carry."

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