

# The Skirmisher

ST. JOHN'S MILITARY SCHOOL, SALINA, KANSAS

Vol. III.

MAY 25, 1920

No. 8.

## IN CAMP MAY 5-13

### ANNUAL OUTING HELD AT FARM OF "BOB" WHITE

The weather man had evidently decided, "Hands Off" and, as a result, this year's encampment of St. John's Military School was very successful. The camp was called "Camp Robb" in honor of Lieutenant George Robb of Salina, who was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

The Cadets left the Barracks on the morning of Wednesday, May 5 and returned in time for supper Thursday, May 13. It rained only twice during the stay. Both times the rain came at night and caused no damage or discomfort. In fact, few of the Cadets knew it had rained until morning. Last year, on account of the time lost on the range because of wet weather, several days had to be added to the time allotted, so as to finish the firing.

As last year, when the battalion arrived, they found that the advance party had laid out camp, erected tents and done all preliminary work necessary. All the Cadets had to do was to find their tents, "shed" their equipment and fall in the mess line.

A cook-shack on wheels, like those used by threshing outfits, had been obtained and this served as a kitchen. The cook, obtained from Salina for the occasion, was an excellent one. He had been a cook in the Navy. Instead of filing by the mess-tent, Cadets this year went through the cook-shack and were served as they passed.

Classes, except for those who desired—or needed—special attention, were suspended. Parade and formal guard-mount were held each evening, but most of the time was free for those who were not firing.

Swimming parties, in charge of an older Cadet, were organized almost any time during the day. Fishing was good. Each morning Cadets would return from their lines with fish, big ones, too. A net and poles had been brought along and this served for a volley-ball court. Footballs and baseball equipment were

## IS CHOSEN CAPTAIN



GREELEY TIMOTHY

Greeley Timothy was recently elected captain of the St. John's Military School basketball team for next year. This is the second time Timothy has been picked out as their leader by his team-mates, as he also was elected football captain.

The above picture shows him in football costume and was taken shortly after his election as football captain. He plays an excellent game of basketball and football. He did the punting and goal-kicking after touchdown for the Cadets last fall and has the record of making twenty-three out of twenty-five attempts at goal after touchdown.

His home is in Colorado.

furnished, too, and Cadets had opportunity to play volley-ball, football, baseball, hunt, swim, and finish.

## Heard at Camp on Guard

Officer of the Day: "What are your General Orders?"

Sentry Schoonmaker: "To keep eye open and all other government property in view."

## FIRST TEAM NAMED

### SEVEN BASKETBALL PLAYERS RECEIVE SWEATERS

BRUCE JOHNSON  
RALPH MUIR  
BELLMONT RISING  
STANLEY SKILLING  
GREELEY TIMOTHY  
CLARENCE WAGNER  
LLOYD UMSTOT

Following a meeting of the Athletic Board of Control, seven Cadets were picked as members of the St. John's first basketball team. They were presented at dinner with the basketball trophies, sweaters with the S. J. M. S. monograms, by Captain Charles Cannon, Coach.

Captain Cannon's team had closed a successful season, having won twelve of sixteen games played with various Kansas High Schools.

Those who received sweaters were: forwards, Stanley Skilling, Greeley Timothy, Belmont Rising; center, Ralph Muir; guards, Lloyd Umstot, Clarence Wagner, Bruce Johnson. Muir, Rising and Johnson are seniors and have played their last game for St. John's. Muir was captain of this year's team.

After presentation of the trophies, Captain Cannon announced that the squad had elected Greeley Timothy captain for next year. Timothy is also captain-elect for the football team.

Besides presenting trophies to the first squad, the following were picked as members of the St. John's Seconds in basketball: Vernon Benest, Paul Gardner, "Chief" Lolly Jack, Donald Pattison, Verne Ross, Gus Shiney, Makinley Wood.

## ARRANGING FOOTBALL DATES

## Major J. L. Wier, Coach, Busy Getting Games for This Fall

Major J. L. Wier, athletic director of St. John's Military School, is busy arranging his football schedule for this fall. Definite arrangements already have been made for three games; three others have been agreed upon but the dates have not been finally decided and Major Wier is still in correspondence with several other high schools. The St. John's team will play at least seven games, possibly nine. The dates already settled are:

McPherson High, October 15, at McPherson.

Abilene High, October 27, at Salina.

Salina High, November 5, at Salina.

The Cadets will open their season in Salina October 1. According to an agreement made last year, Lincoln High School is to play a return game in Salina this fall and the Lincoln boys may be the Cadets' first opponents. St. John's won from Lincoln there last fall.

It is probable that St. John's will go to Beloit October 22, although that date has not been definitely agreed upon. The Beloit team lost to St. John's last year in Salina.

Just when the game with Junction City will be played is not yet known. The Cadets were unable to play the game scheduled last year as Junction City was forced to cancel twice, first because of prevalence of diphtheria and again on Thanksgiving because of the condition of their grounds.

One of the two football games lost last year by the Cadets was lost to the crack Lawrence High School team. The St. John's boys are hoping for better luck next fall and are looking forward to a trip to the University town.

Major Wier has written Junction City, Manhattan and Minneapolis concerning a game for Thanksgiving Day. This game will be played away from Salina, so as not to conflict with the Salina-Abilene game here on that day. He hopes to hear definitely from one of these schools shortly.

He has also written to the high school at St. John's, Kansas, for a game. This team wished to play the Cadets last fall but their letter arrived after the St. John's schedule had been made out. The Cadets and the St. John's High School played basketball this winter but, to date,

there has been no football game between the two schools. Two of the Cadets who won places on the St. John's Military School first football team last fall, Osborne and Ross, are from St. John's, Kansas.

## Chmpion Cake-Eater Found

After painstaking research and considerable interviewing of participants and spectators of the morning pancake skirmishes, this paper has decided that the medal of honor shall go to Cadet George D. Thompson. On the authority of no less a person than the cook, Cadet Thompson is reported to have eaten thirteen cakes at one sitting—and to have remarked shortly afterward, "that he was still a little hungry." Said cakes were about the diameter of the average china plate, so THE SKIRMISHER feels justified in giving Cadet Thompson the title of "Champion Out-Door-Cake-Eater." Any Cadet wishing to dispute this finding is requested to file in writing his own claim to the honor.

## Have Double Birthday Party

Major and Mrs. J. L. Wier recently entertained members of the faculty, Cadets on the first football team and the Cadets who sit at their table, at "double birthday" party—that of Major Wier and Cadet Schaffner, whose anniversaries fall on the same day. Those present were: Mrs. E. C. Moore and Mrs. B. A. Murray, Mrs. Wier's guests from Chicago, Major and Mrs. Ganssle and little daughter Catherine Joyce, Mrs. Ganssle's mother, Mrs. L. F. Pierce of Racine, Wis., Capt. and Mrs. Charles Cannon, Capt. and Mrs. R. S. Shideler, Capt. and Mrs. Maurice Hicklin.

Cadets: Bruce Johnson, Stanley Skilling, Howard Hayden, Lloyd Umstot, John Fleming, Henry Perry, Verne Ross, C. Lydon Lippincott, Kenneth Harris, Clarence Wagner, Waldron Sanders, Greeley Timothy, Glenn Hepworth, Daniel Schaffner, Aubrey Greer, Elmer Hill, William Dearing, Robert Bell, Gardiner Hart.

The St. John's Jazz—Gardiner Hart, piano; Kenneth Harris, violin; Clarence Wagner, baritone; John Fleming, drums—furnished music.

The Rt. Rev. George A. Beecher, D. D., bishop of Western Nebraska and acting bishop of the District of Salina, leaves in June for England. He will attend the Lambeth Council, a meeting of all bishops of the Episcopal Church, which is held every ten years.



## New Spring

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Private A. Buck, R. R. \*Says—

Here's the thing I like the best,  
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It's to get, when mail-call goes,  
A Miss-directed letter.

Sh!, Sh! fellows, this way. I know  
a guy what's just gotta box o' eats  
from home.

The high cost of shaving makes the  
"Zits" game exciting.

An hour with a fishing-line is worth  
a day in the guard tent.

"The first shall be last and the last  
shall be first" means a lot to me since  
I was put at the end o' the mess line.

A forgetful farmer,  
A dynamite stick.  
A curious boy  
Called Dynamite Dick.  
A bright wood-fire,  
Cadets all around.  
If the Guard hadn't come  
They'd be heavenward bound.

\* Rear rank.

## Junior Class Presents Flowers

In appreciation of her aid in helping them plan for the Junior Prom, Cadets of the Junior Class at St. John's, presented Mrs. J. L. Wier with American Beauty Roses the night of the dance.

## Tabulated Scores on Range

The Scores made by Cadets completing the marksman and sharpshooter course follow:

	Slow Fire	Rapid Fire	Total
Bell	70	59	129
Bland	75	66	141
Benest	78	73	151
Bigelow	60	68	128
Blaney	70	72	142
Brewer	80	52	132
Condon	70	50	120
Davis	68	57	125
Dearing	42	62	104
Fleming	83	82	165
Gardner	55	62	117
Graybill	67	45	112
Greer	73	58	131
Hall	83	65	148
Harjo	53	45	98
Harris, K.	41	65	106
Hart, G.	63	38	101
Hart, W.	51	65	116
Hayden	86	69	155
Hepworth	63	49	112
Herron	47	54	101
Hill	73	84	157
Hyde, P.	61	68	129
Jack	86	74	160
Jackson	75	63	138
Johnson	90	77	167
Kemp	53	43	96
Kirkpatrick	54	28	82
Lippincott	55	59	114
Linville	61	46	107
Martindale	43	69	112
McBride	60	45	105
McDonald	81	52	133
Pattison	72	31	103
Poindexter	55	31	86
Ready	62	43	105
Rickenbacher	52	39	91
Rising	82	71	153
Robinson	73	32	105
Ross	84	76	160
Ryberg	31	31	62
Sanders	65	70	135
Schaffner	63	62	125
Schlesinger	57	52	109
Schoonmaker	76	69	145
Shiney	51	21	72
Skilling	87	80	167
Stiles	62	79	141
Straub	46	48	94
Sudendorf	67	62	129
Thompson	75	46	121
Timothy	71	77	148
Umstot	87	58	145
Wagner	77	64	141
Webb	37		37
Wilhite	85	81	166
Wilson	67	58	125
Winger	52	44	96
Wood	67	37	104

Twelve cadets who qualified as

marksman then fired the sharpshooter course. Their scores follow:

	Slow Fire	Skirmish	Total
Benest	58	49	107
Fleming	62	27	89
Hayden	57	53	110
Hill	58	39	97
Jack	57	43	100
Johnson	57	45	102
Rising	60	37	97
Ross	71	79	150
Skilling	54	38	92
Stiles	58	53	111
Timothy	48	34	82
Wilhite	47	51	98

## Waited for a Movie Show

Some of the "new boys" at St. John's sat out on the target range for a long time the first evening at camp, waiting for a picture show that never materialized. Some of them had seen Cadets tacking a large piece of canvas over a target frame, in preparation for the next day's shooting. Having never seen a large target like those used in the range work they were curious and asked questions. Their friends at work assured them it was the screen for an open-air picture show and advised them to go early to get a good seat. They did. In fact, their places couldn't have been improved—except by having a picture show in front of them.

## Entertain for Faculty and Table

Captain and Mrs. Maurice Hicklin entertained the Cadets at their table and members of the faculty last week in their apartment at St. John's. Those present were: Major W. L. Ganssle, Mrs. L. F. Pierce, Major and Mrs. Wier and Mrs. Wier's two guests, Mrs. E. C. Moore and Mrs. B. A. Murray, of Chicago, Captain and Mrs. Charles Cannon, Captain and Mrs. R. S. Shideler, Captain N. A. Barker, Captain S. W. Small, and Cadets C. Lydon Lippincott, Hamilton Wilhite, John Hardman, Stuart Rushmer, Walter Howell, Preston Hyde, Frederick Frey.

## Group Pictures Taken

Several group pictures were taken at the school shortly before the Cadet battalion started on their hike to Camp Robb. These pictures will be used in the catalog. The first and second basketball teams, the band, the commissioned officers, and the non-coms "had their beauty struck" at this time.

## Guests At Camp

Among those who were guests at dinner during the Cadets' stay at Camp Robb were: Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Hiller, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hiller, Doctor and Mrs. O. D. Walker, Mrs. B. I. Litowich, Dr. and Mrs. F. W. Clark, Mrs. L. F. Pierce, Mrs. W. L. Ganssle and little daughter, Catherine Joyce, Mrs. Fannie Bangs, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bangs and daughter Dorothy, Mrs. Maurice Hicklin, Mrs. J. L. Wier, Mrs. Charles Cannon and son Jack, Miss Alma Beadle, Mr. and Mrs. Shiney of Hutchinson, Mr. and Mrs. Cardiff.

## Eleven Cadets Confirmed

Eleven Cadets of St. John's Military School were confirmed by the Rt. Rev. George A. Beecher, D. D., bishop of Nebraska on his recent visit to the school. The Cadets were prepared for confirmation by the Rev. Frank M. Myers, chaplain of St. John's. Those confirmed were: Cadets John F. Hall, G. Kenneth Harris, John T. Harris, Aubrey D. Greer, Harry S. Davis, Lewis T. Cline, Robert W. Kirkpatrick, George D. Thompson, Henry W. Al-lard, Charles Parker, Robert Wiley.

Mrs. E. C. Moore and Mrs. B. A. Murray of Chicago were recently guests of Mrs. J. L. Wier at St. John's School. Mrs. Moore went to California from here for an extended stay before returning to her home in Chicago.

Major W. L. Ganssle, superintendent, and the Rev. Frank R. Myers, Chaplain, recently attended the Seventeenth Annual Convocation of the District of Salina at Hutchinson. This is made up of the clergy and lay delegates from each parish or mission in the District.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hartley and children, Elsie, Joe and Harold were recent dinner guests of Captain and Mrs. R. S. Shideler at St. John's.

Miss Pauline Jones of Kansas City, Mo., is visiting her sister, Mrs. Maurice Hicklin at St. John's Military School.

Mr. C. W. Landers of Wichita, recently visited his son Cadet Robert Landers of St. John's School.



# The Skirmisher

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## 12 QUALIFY AS MARKSMAN

### Cadets Fire Annual Range Course at Camp Robb

Of the sixty Cadets who completed the National Rifle Association marksman's course, twelve qualified as marksman. Of these twelve who then fired the sharpshooter's course, only one, Sergeant Verne Ross of Company A, qualified as a sharpshooter. The eleven Cadets who qualified as marksman, besides Ross, were:

Cadet-Captain Bruce Johnson, Cadet-Lieutenant Howard Hayden, Cadet-Lieutenant Stanley Skilling, Cadet-Privates Vernon Benest, Elmer Hill, Lolly Jack, Merritt Stiles, Greeley Timothy and Hamilton Wilhite. Other Cadets besides the sixty who completed the course did a part of the prescribed firing but their showing did not justify them in completing the course. It took a score of 150 of a possible 200 to qualify.

The courses fired were those prescribed by the National Rifle association for 1920, and were as follows:

Marksman course: Fired at 300 yards, no rest used. Slow fire, five shots each in the prone, kneeling, squatting and standing positions or a total of twenty shots slow-fire. Rapid fire, also five shots each in the prone, kneeling, squatting and standing positions. Necessary to qualify as marksman: An aggregate score of 150, or a total score of 75 in Rapid fire.

Sharpshooter course: Arm, hand or rifle must touch post or parapet. Slow fire, 200 yards, 5 shots standing from post rest; 300 yards, 5 shots kneeling from trench; 400 yards, five shots sitting or squatting from trench. 500 yards, five shots prone from trench. Total, twenty shots slow-fire. Then one skirmish run of twenty shots. The Skirmish run begins at 500 yards and five shots are fired at each of the foregoing distances and positions. Score is taken at end of run.

Captain and Mrs. Charles Cannon and little son Jack, and Mrs. Cannon's sister, Miss Alma Beadle, drove to Wilson, Kansas, for the week-end last week.

## WILL HAVE MORE PICTURES

### Catalog To Contain Many "Snaps" Made by Cadets

The catalog of St. John's Military School will contain more pictures of students and student activities this year than ever before. Besides the usual pictures of the graduating class, of the officers and non-coms, of the various athletic teams, the battalion, the buildings etc., there will be new pictures, made largely from snapshots taken by various Cadets during the year.

A number of pictures were turned in by various Cadets. Among those whose snapshots will be used in special pages are: Bellmont Rising, Harold Brewer, Richard Poindexter, Richard Ready, Lolly Jack, Stuart and Ernest Rushmer, Ronald McDonald, Andrew Wilson, Gillmore Osborne. Those of Bellmont Rising and Gillmore Osborne deserve special mention. All of the pictures that will go to make the page, "Salina Views" were taken by Rising. Of the eleven pictures in the page of football snapshots, eight were taken by Gillmore Osborne.

### Advance Party Prepares Camp

In order to allow the Cadets to be assigned to their tents immediately after their arrival at camp, an advance party was sent out to the camp site on Monday before the cadets were to start. These Cadets, in charge of Major J. L. Wier, laid out the camp, erected all tents and policed the grounds thoroughly. The advance party came back to school Tuesday evening by truck, in order to march out with the battalion the next day. Those in the advance party were: Cadets Bruce Johnson, Howard Hayden, Verne Ross, Lawrence Bigelow, Greeley Timothy, Waldron Sanders, Clarence Wagner, Donald Pattison, Walter and John Howell, Harold Brewer, George Martindale, Lloyd Umstot, John Fleming, Bellmont Rising, Howard Fulwider, Hamilton Wilhite.

### Have Flash-Light of Prom

An excellent picture of one dance, a flash-light, was taken at the recent Junior Prom. Another picture was taken while Cadets and guests were at the table, but this did not turn out well, as many of those being "taken" moved.

Mrs. Grace Cline of Topeka visited her son Cadet Lewis Cline at St. John's School recently.

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### DUKE, THE MASCOT, IS DEAD

Cadets at St. John's Mourn Loss of  
Shepherd Dog

Duke, the shepherd-dog mascot of St. John's Military School for years, is dead. Contrary to the prediction that he would be run over by an automobile, Duke was poisoned. Wrapped in a shelter-half, surrounded by his pals, the Cadets, Duke died at Camp Robb and his spirit is now chasing phantom cats and automobiles in the Happy Hunting Ground. He was buried under a tree in the front campus of St. John's.

To those to whom an obituary notice of a dog may seem strange, it is explained that for four years Duke has been as much a part of St. John's Military School as any Cadet, or for that matter, any member of the faculty.

He was first discovered, four years ago, calmly asleep in a bed in one of the Cadet's rooms. It developed that he had followed two Cadets home one night and they had decided to share their room with him. They had had the good grace, however, to give him a shower-bath before taking him to bed.

A former owner of Duke told Major Ganssle that the dog had been owned by several families in town, but that he would not remain at a place long where there were no boys.

He would stay very contentedly at the school all year as long as the students were here. When vacation came, Duke usually decided to take a vacation also. He would disappear and would not return until the next fall.

Last summer he remained until August. He did not return in the fall and the Cadets had almost given up hope of seeing him again. One morning, shortly after Christmas holidays, a dog was heard barking at reveille. Duke had returned.

Like many another famous character, Duke seemed to have picked out his successor. A little black dog, of doubtful breed, attached himself to Duke last fall. It was noticed that he paraded with the Cadets last Sunday. His efforts are appreciated, but he can never replace Duke in the hearts of the Cadets.

Cadet Glenn Hepworth spent the week-end at his home in Manhattan recently.

Cadet John Hardman visited at his home in Wakeeney recently.

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## JUNIORS ENTERTAIN SENIORS

### Annual Dinner and Prom Held At Elk's Hall

The Junior Class of St. John's Military School were hosts to the faculty of St. John's, the Senior Class and guests from Salina at the annual Junior Prom the night of April 30, at the Elks' Club.

A five-course dinner was served, beginning at 7:30 o'clock. The guests danced between the dinner-courses and the regular program dance followed after dinner. The table decorations were in pink.

Cadet Verne Ross, president of the Junior Class, spoke briefly at dinner, welcoming the guests.

Two flash-light pictures were taken during the evening, one of the guests at dinner and the other of them dancing. There were two favor dances, the first dinner-dance and the seventh program dance. Favors for the first were balloons and for the second, a bronze S. J. M. S. officers' insignia for each young lady. Those present were:

Major W. L. Ganssle, Major and Mrs. J. L. Wier, Captain and Mrs. Maurice Hicklin, Captain and Mrs. Charles Cannon, Captain and Mrs. Raymond Shideler, The Rev. F. L. Myers, chaplain, and Captain L. V. Vernon.

Misses: Neva Brown, Alma Beadle, Doris Thomas, Ethel Connely, Nora Calvert, Ruth Titus, Hortense Pierce, Madeline Donmyer, Frances Felt, Elizabeth Bulkley, Mildred Fagerstrom, Corine Nelson, Neva Sloan, Josephine Morgenstern, Helen Smith, Marie Holmberg, Helen Stanford, Edith Miner.

Seniors: Cadets Bruce Johnson, Ralph Muir, Howard Hayden, Lloyd Umstot, Henry Perry, Belmont Rising. Juniors: Cadets Verne Ross, Greeley Timothy, Clarence Wagner, Frank Blaney, Stanley Skilling, Jay Fleming, Howard Fulwider, Edward Sudendorf, Lawrence Bigelow, Glen Hepworth, Waldron Sanders, Meritt Stiles, Harold Brewer.

Cadet Porter Hyde and Albert Smith of the St. John's Lower School assisted in receiving the guests.

Mrs. L. F. Pierce, Mrs. W. L. Ganssle, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Hiller and their guest, Miss Hazel Silver, were dinner guests at St. John's recently.

Major W. L. Ganssle, superintendent of St. John's, made a business trip to Topeka and Kansas City recently in interest of the school.

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**Matches wanted:** C. L. Lippincott, Zits Champion, will meet any contender for the title, who can make the weight. Address MaKinley Wood, manager.

**Just Out:** "Reflections of Richard", written while the author was in the guard tent. Gives a soldier's impressions of life among dangers. Address The Skirmish.

**Notice to Middle-weight Eaters:** I hereby challenge any Cadet in the battalion to a pan-cake contest. Only those who have qualified by eating thirteen regulation pan-cakes at a sitting need apply. Cakes must come up to the diameter and thickness prescribed in the rules of the National Association of Pan-Cake Eaters. George Thompson.

**Use Cook-Shack for Kitchen**

This year's camp "kitchen" was a considerable improvement on the one used last year. A "cook-shack" on wheels, used by a threshing outfit, was procured. Last year, the first kitchen was set up under a large tree. This served very well until the rains came, when, as one Cadet expressed it, "the roof leaked." Then a tent was used.

Perhaps the fact that the kitchen force was ready for a rain—in, fact, dared one to come—accounts for there being so little rain during the stay at camp this year.

**Had Electric Lights**

Sergeant-Major Perry is nothing if not up-to-date. Last year at Camp Perkins he had running water in his tent—after the big rain. This year at Camp Robb his was the only tent electrically lighted. (He used his motor car, parked nearby, as the power plant).

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**Have You Ever Been There?**

Sentry Parker: "Halt! Who's There?"

O. D.: "The officer of the day."

Sentry Parker: "Well, come on up here and let me recognize you."

—  
Mrs. P. S. Suttle visited her sons Cadets Walter and John Howell at St. John's recently.



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