

# The Skirmisher

ST. JOHN'S MILITARY SCHOOL, SALINA, KANSAS

Vol. IV.

MARCH 10, 1921

No. 4.

## OUR NEW CHAPLAIN

### ST. JOHN'S WELCOMES THE REV. MR. McKNIGHT

St. John's has been very fortunate in securing the Rev. Charles H. McKnight, who will succeed the Rev. Frank R. Myers as Chaplain. Mr. McKnight has had a great deal of experience, both in Parish work and in boys' schools, and comes to us highly recommended.

In addition to his work as Chaplain, Mr. McKnight will have charge of the English department, of which Mrs. Frank Myers was formerly in charge.

Elmira, N. Y., is Mr. McKnight's home town, and it was here in the public schools that he received his elementary education. Afterwards he spent one year at Hobart College, Geneva, N. Y., and from here he went to Cornell University. Later on he graduated from the General Theological Seminary in New York City, and was ordained into the Ministry by Bishop Frederick Dan Huntington, First Bishop of Central New York.

Mr. McKnight's first work in the Ministry was as Curate at St. John's, Ithaca, N. Y. He remained here one year and then went to Elmira to succeed his father as Rector of Trinity Church, which position he had held for forty years. He gave up his parish at Elmira to become Chaplain at St. John's Manlius near Syracuse, Y. Y., where he was associated with General Burbeck, President of the Institution. He remained at Manlius Schools for six years and then accepted the position of Associate Headmaster at Berkeley School in New York City, one of the oldest schools for boys in New York. Later on, when the Berkeley School combined with the Irving School, most of the Berkeley faculty withdrew, and Mr. McKnight took a Parish. After spending two years in this Parish, he went to St. Andrews, Sewanee, Tenn. as instructor in History.

Mr. McKnight came to us from St. Andrews, Tenn., and the faculty and

Cadet Corps extend to him a hearty welcome.

### Mr. Myers Accepts Call

Mr. Myers has accepted a call to Chicago as Assistant Rector of St. James Episcopal Church, under Dr. James Stone. Mr. Myers will take up his new duties on May 1st, and will have charge of the church during the summer months in the absence of Dr. Stone on vacation.

Besides his duties as Assistant Rector, Mr. Myers will be an instructor in Religious Pedagogy in the Western Theological Seminary at the beginning of next term. He will also take some work in the Seminary towards his degree.

Mrs. Myers will leave St. John's on Wednesday, March 30, for a few weeks visit at her home in Carbondale, Colo., after which she will join Mr. Myers in Chicago.

Mr. Myers has been absent for the past two weeks holding services at Anthony, Medicine Lodge and other churches in the diocese. He expects to return before Mrs. Myers' departure for Colorado. The faculty and cadets of St. John's Military School wish Mr. and Mrs. Myers all happiness and success in their new home.

### New Classes Started

Two new classes have been started, Civics and Economics. The former is working under Captain Bernard, while the latter is under Major Ganssle. They are both old classes as far as membership is concerned, the Civics class being the sequel to the American History and the Economics the sequel to the Commercial Law class.

### Open Order Drill

The drill period has taken on a new aspect for many of the cadets with the advent of open drill. Several periods a week are spent in field tactics and battle practice work. Of course, we get punctured by hedges and run to death, but it's a big improvement over the close order work.

## THE BISHOP'S VISIT

### INSPIRING ADDRESS AT EVENING CHAPEL

On Sunday, March 6, Bishop Mize paid his first official visit to St. John's. The Bishop preached a sermon at evening service in Chapel, and was a guest at supper that night.

Bishop Mize, who was for eight years head-master of St. John's, gave us the history of the Chapel equipment, some of which was in his father's church and later removed to St. John's during his stay here.

The theme of the Bishop's sermon was based on three points of success: Fellowship, Co-operation, and Accomplishment. He showed that without fellowship nothing could be obtained; that we should be tolerant and have good feeling and be on friendly terms with one another.

By co-operation is meant that we must work together and with one aim of success, or accomplishment can not be attained. People pulling in opposite directions never win complete success.

His final point was that to gain success we must accomplish what we set out to do, and do nothing without having a definite purpose in view.

Bishop Mize's sermon was filled with examples from his personal experiences which bore out his statements.

The cadets in the Second Form have completed the course in Commercial Geography and are now studying Civics. The First Form are commencing the Fundamental Principles of Hygiene, since they have finished the required work in the Elementary History.

Two more Jersey cows have been added to the stock of the school farm and this increase has made it possible for milk to be served as a drink every day. The supply is plentiful, each table being allowed three pitchers a meal.

### CADETS WIN CUP

For the second time in two years the St. John's Basket Ball Team won the District Tournament in Class B. This tournament was held under the auspices of the Kansas Wesleyan University of Salina, and was played in their gymnasium, March 11 and 12.

The cadets played three teams: New Cambria, Lucas, and Kipp.

The game with New Cambria was a walk-away for the cadets, the final score being 30 to 6. Gotte was high man, making 14 points.

The cadets drew a blank for Saturday morning, March 12, but played Lucas on Saturday afternoon. The game was a very close one, a tie resulting at the end of the game, and an extra five minute period was played to decide the game. The cadets had kept one or two points ahead throughout the game, when a foul in the last ten seconds of the game by Pattison gave Lucas the chance at free throw, which tied the game at 13 to 13. After a short rest the teams were again called upon the floor to play off the tie. The cadets came back with a rush and Pattison made two field goals in quick succession. Lucas then made a field goal and missed two free throws. The period then ended with the score 17 to 13 in favor of St. John's.

This contest was especially interesting to all the old boys, as the Lucas team had been coached by Capt. Chas. Cannon, who had been formerly in charge of the athletics at St. John's for a period of three years.

The final game, played with Kipp, was won easily by the cadets by a score of 31 to 10. The regular lineup was played the first half, but early in the second the cadets were so far in the lead that Sanders, Shellenberger, and Putnam were substituted for Ross, Lippincott and Pattison.

If the Cadets win the cup again next year, they will be allowed to keep it, the requirement being that it must be won three years successively before it becomes the property of the school winning it.

This trophy was presented by the Spaulding Athletic Goods Co. through the Hub Clothing Store of Salina.

The School feels justly proud of the Basket Ball Team, for the above showing is most creditable when we consider the handicaps under which they have labored. Our prediction that they would come back in fine style when once they found their stride has been fulfilled. This showing, however,

would not have been possible had they not had such efficient coaching, and it is to Major Wier's untiring efforts to whip the team into line that their success is largely due. If they show such form next year as they have recently displayed, they should win many new honors; and the fact that they have won the cup twice will spur them on to achieve a like success and create in them the burning desire to bring home that trophy next winter for keeps.

### Dawns Opportunity

The Sun has risen, the day is breaking

The city side is not yet waking.  
Too late the gas lights were left burning;

For longer sleep those drones are yearning.

They never know the aid dawn lends;  
They lose, while gain their rural friends

Who keep in mind that saying true:  
"O Big round sun, we're following you."

So my good friend keep this in mind,  
This saying true you'll always find,  
Will keep you healthy as well as wise,  
And enable you to win your prize.

The dawn is perfect and it is true,  
The moon is false, her labors few;  
So follow the true things of life,  
And be a winner in the strife.

FRANK CLARK '24.

### Cadet Isis

Isis has grown up and isn't quite so playful now. The bear which was only a cub when school started in September is now almost full grown. He has lost lots of his playfulness, but still is able to provide good times for the cadets and the visitors who come to see him. Isis is mascot of both St. John's and the Isis Temple Shrine of Salina.

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## A YOUNG MAN'S FANCY

In the Spring a yong man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of—no, not love—automobiles. The old car is dragged into the limelight once more. Wheels that have not turned since the last season are again given the opportunity to roll along smooth city pavement and dusty country roads, supreme in their mastery of speed. And the young man with the flying hair or the gray-haired old man with his beard flowing in a long streamer behind him; both exult in their control of the powerful mechanism which carries them so smoothly over the surface of the earth, skimming along on the wings of the wind, with the hum and throb of the motor producing a thrill of exhilaration in the hearts of both young and old.

But it is not this type of vehicle which we have to deal with in this little skit. It is the other kind; the most accursed, most abused, and the most widely known in human conversation of all the host of modern conveyances,—the second-hand car.

It is, no doubt in regard for the feelings of the misguided owner, called a "used car", but if verity is sought we suggest "misused" as a better title. Its fenders are battered, the headlights are mashed, the effort of motion is achieved at the cost of sundry groans and rattles, hollow coughs and wheezes such as no chronic asthma sufferer ever thought of releasing from his system, and to crown all, its exhaust belches forth the most vile, nostril-irritating, sooty mixture of gas and smoke quite beyond the ambition of the smokiest factory-chimney in New York City or even Pittsburgh.

But let us continue with the tale of the young man—

He drags out the old car from its dusty boudoir, and looks it over with shakes of the head and investigative pokes of the forefinger at the seat cushions, and tries the clutch and control. With a dubious shake of the head he sets the gas and spark levers and steps on the starter. No response. Battery's dead.

After several dusty and sneeze-inducing investigations under the rear seat he retrieves a large crank from the depth, and proceeds to insert it in the nose of the dormant machine. Even after the most persuasive and persevering efforts on the part of the luckless young man the once powerful motor within the depths of the metal framework fails to respond.

Then the young man decides on real

action. He delves once more under the rear seat and produces, this time, the usual kit of tools without which the most serviceable car would feel neglected, and proceeds to remove the covering from the inner workings and grease-covered levers of the motionless vehicle, and exposes the battered motor and service-worn gears to view.

In the course of two or three hours he has the main part of the motor, including all the various bolts, screws, nuts, and springs strewn all the way from the car to the garage and all about the lawn in general, where some of them will remain to be cursed by the man who runs the lawn-mower when the grass is high enough to cut, and where some will remain to their day of disintegration.

We will spare the reader the description of the tedious effort and inexhaustible vocabulary of the endeavoring mechanic in the process of gathering up the miscellaneous pieces of the luckless automobile and putting them back into place. Needless to say, some of them were given new positions, and some were given none at all, according to the memory of the young man. Some pieces defied his most persistent efforts to recall from what part of the machine they were taken. But let that suffice; the car was once more assembled and the young mechanic climbs into the seat with all the expectations and hopefulness of youth and steps on the starter once more. The buzz of the electric starter cheers him and he involuntarily presses harder on the lever. But—can it be that after all this effort the motor refuses to take hold? Why does not the mechanism which has been so painstakingly replaced and repaired, respond to the impetus of the starter and belch forth flames and blue smoke and roar with all the combined effort of its six cylinders, and throb with the controlled power of its mighty pistons?

The young man feebly crawls from the seat of the car, an expression of failure and disgust on his begrimed face. He slowly looks down at his greasy fingers and his skinned knuckles and tears spring to his eyes when he thinks of the wasted effort and his disappointed hopes. Slowly he turns away.

His younger brother appears from around the corner of the woodshed and notes the tools and extra parts upon the running board of the car and looks at the back of his older brother and a feeling of pity surges through him as he notes the disappointment and hope-

lessness which is written in every line of his brother's body.

The smaller boy turns and an inspiration seizes him; rushing to the rear of the car he unscrews the cap of the gas-tank. An expression of disgust overflows his features and he turns to the broken body of his brother and exclaims, with that rudeness peculiar to small brothers, "Why you big boob, don't you know you can't run a car without GASOLINE?"

HARRY T. GRAY.

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# The Skirmisher

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## St. John's Presented With Large Flag

St. John's was the recipient recently of a handsome flag measuring 9 3/4 by 17 3/4 feet, which was presented to the School by the Right Reverend N. S. Thomas, S. T. D., Bishop of Wyoming, whose father founded this institution and served as Rector until his death.

Bishop Thomas was instructor here, and while at St. John's was ordained into the ministry.

Bishop Thomas preached the baccalaureate sermon to the class of 1920, and also preached the sermon at Bishop Mize's consecration in Topeka. The faculty and Cadet Corps feel highly honored by and deeply appreciative of this splendid gift, as the school has had no large flag heretofore for holidays or special occasions. This flag will surely be a great inspiration to us all, as well as to the citizens of Salina when they come out to see our drills and parades.

The "Squad" has been busy for the past two weeks cleaning up the grounds of dead leaves and traces of winter. The hedges and lawns have been cleaned and the driveway repaired. Among other improvements is a fence around the "Bull Ring". St. John's grounds are a beautiful example of landscape work, the hedges, trees, shrubbery and drives being artistically arranged. The grounds are already green, and in a very few weeks the trees will have sufficient growth of leaves to afford real shade.

She: "And what did father say when you told him your love for me was a bubbling, rushing river?"

A Cadet: "He said, 'Dam it!'"

## BIG GAME HUNTERS



Major W. L. Ganssle, Major J. L. Wier, Mr. L. C. Webb, Mr. Ralph Hiller

## The Elephant Hunt

We have recently received from the Shriners' Magazine "The Crescent" of St. Paul, Minn., the above cut illustrating an exciting incident that happened on the opening day of school last fall.

On that eventful day Mr. L. C. Webb, of the Lee Hardware Co., called Major Ganssle on the phone to tell him that there was a wild elephant in town that had broken loose from the Sells-Floto Circus, and asked him to bring a couple of men with rifles to help hunt him down and kill him, as he was tearing things up generally and becoming a real menace to the community at large. The invitation sounded to Major more like a joke than anything else, and he at first thought it might be one of the cadets "having him on." However, upon receiving assurance that it was actually a fact, Major Ganssle and Major Wier quickly donned their proven huntsman's uniform, seized their trusty shooting irons of wicked calibre and range and several rounds of ammunition, and hied them to the jungle. They found that the said animal had already done considerable damage, details of which are given below. The big game hunters were the recipients of much advice from those present at the scene of action as to how to get in a telling shot, but using their own judgment they aimed for a spot behind the ear in the hope of getting a

bullet into the animal's brain. After numerous evolutions and devolutions the beast was brought to his knees, and it was found that several shots had penetrated his cerebellum and one passed through the spinal cord.

Parts of the animal are being exhibited in Salina, and the F. Bangs Jewelry Co., one of our advertisers, is having several leather grips and bags made from the hide for sale. It is hoped that some of these will get into the hands of the hunters.

The following account of the incident we reprint from the Crescent:

"Leave it to Kansas to furnish the frills

In the days of long ago we heard stories of grasshoppers large enough to pick their teeth with railroad ties.

Next came the birth of the Farmers Alliance and the political burial of John J. Ingalls.

Kansas furnished Jess Willard to the world and provided sanctuary when he exploded one day recently.

And it was left to Kansas and Kansas Shriners to hunt down and kill the only wild elephant known to exist on the American continent. It happened in September and the Huge animal went wild for some unknown reason when a circus brought him into the beautiful little city in the north central portion of the big grain state.

The crowds were gathering for the afternoon performance, when suddenly "Snyder" trumpeted in rage and his



keeper flew through the crowd to spread a warning that there was danger. The crowd scattered as the elephant snapped the chains as easily as he could have broken cotton threads and began charging around the animal tent. He knocked over animal cages and walked through the canvas going outside and on returning he struck the baby elephant a resounding blow with his trunk and the little chap tried so hard to kick the stuffings out of his big brother that the baby had to be put to bed with a few chains around him.

Finally the circus people and the town authorities decided that Snyder was due for the unseen temple and they induced him to drink a few gallons of solution of cyanide, but the stuff seemed only to stimulate his wild desire to find somebody in the crowd who had done something to annoy him.

Anyway the firing squad was sent for and like true Arabs the boys responded. They pumped a few rounds of German medicine into Snyder and his spirit went back to Africa or wherever it is that the elephant heaven is located.

The circus people claimed that Snyder was worth \$10,000 of anybody's money before he went mad and passed out, but as a corpse he wasn't worth skinning. So the city of Salina is having the skin mounted as an addition to their museum.—The "Crescent", St. Paul, Minn.

#### Examination Exemptions

The following boys were exempt from taking the last examinations in one or more subjects for having made an average of 90 or over for the six weeks period:

Anderson—Arithmetic.  
Benest—History.  
Benson—Spelling, Arithmetic.  
Bovill—Geography, English, Spelling, Arithmetic, Reading.  
Brazleton—English and Reading.  
Cory—History and Reading.  
Conklin—Arithmetic.  
Christensen—All Subjects.  
Dougherty—Geometry, Bookkeeping and Typewriting.  
Erwin—Algebra and History.  
Farley—Geography.  
Fleming—History and Civics.  
Frederickson—History, Grammar, Reading, Arithmetic and Spelling.  
Gray—Typewriting and Economics.  
Hart—English, History, Algebra, Civics.  
Hatcher—Typewriting.

Hartnett—Grammar and Reading.  
Hill—Economics.  
Hyde—Typewriting and Bookkeeping.  
Hopper—Typewriting.  
Hendershot—Geography, Arithmetic and Spelling.  
Jackson—Algebra and Geometry.  
Lander—Reading.  
Linville—Bookkeeping and Typewriting.  
McDonald—Typewriting.  
Marts—Geography and Arithmetic.  
Marrs, A.—English, History, Arithmetic, and Geography.  
Myers—English, Geography and Reading.  
Mize, E.—History and Latin.  
Mize, R.—All Subjects.  
McNair—English IV and English V, and Typewriting.  
Pattison—Algebra, Geometry, Physics and History.  
Price, T.—Arithmetic, Grammar, and Spelling.  
Ross—All Subjects.  
Snedden—All Subjects.  
Schaffner—All Subjects.  
Schlesinger—English, Geometry, and Latin.  
Stiles—English, Geometry, History and Physics.  
Smith, G.—English, Physics, and Economics.  
Shields—Geometry, Latin and Algebra.  
Shaffer—Algebra and Science.  
Smith, E.—Algebra and Latin.  
Smith, D.—Spanish, Bookkeeping, and Arithmetic.  
Sanders—English and Typewriting.  
Shellenberger—History and Bookkeeping.  
Shiney—History.  
Smith, A.—Spelling.  
Sanger—Reading and History.  
Tanner—English, Arithmetic, Geography, Spelling, and Reading.  
Utterback—Arithmetic.  
White—Spelling and Geography.  
Wheeler, D.—English, Algebra and Typewriting.  
Wiley—Algebra, Typewriting, and English.  
Wilson—English and History.  
Wiles—Reading, English, and History.

—The American Legion Weekly.

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 up? Sit up than stand? Stand than  
 ride? Ride than walk?

Would you rather sleep than work  
 an equation in algebra or the Pythag-  
 orean theorem in Geometry? Would  
 you rather do without your pipe than  
 walk across the hall for "makins"?

Would you rather spend the day in  
 bed than get up and dress? Would  
 you rather live on soup than go  
 through the labor of chewing meat  
 and spuds?

Would you rather invent an excuse  
 for not attending your classes than  
 climb three flights of stairs to the  
 classroom? Would you rather read a  
 novel than a thesis on the passive pol-  
 icy of government?

Would you rather recline upon a  
 feather-bed than upon the hard  
 ground? Would you rather do with-  
 out your daily mail than walk to the  
 corner after it?

Would you prefer, above all things,  
 to lie upon a mossy bank with a straw  
 hat pulled over your face and a fish-  
 pole in your hand, and dangle a  
 squirming worm in the limpid blue  
 water of a small stream?

You would? No, it isn't serious,  
 you merely have the SPRING FEV-  
 ER.

A. W. O. L.

It came to pass that upon the twen-  
 ty-fifth day of February that an in-  
 spection of quarters was inaugurated  
 and carried out by Messrs. Barker,  
 Meyers, and Thronson, and in the  
 course of their duty they discovered  
 that certain persons were absent from  
 their quarters when, it is alleged, they  
 should have been at work on their  
 studies. It was duly recommended  
 that an investigation be held. (Unani-  
 mous).

The afore-mentioned parties, it  
 came to pass, were not in any position  
 to excuse their absence. Therefore it  
 was passed upon and subsequently  
 carried, confirmed, and duly reported  
 to the adjutant, that the absent par-  
 ties be given thirty hours each upon  
 the bull-ring in which to think up  
 sufficient excuses. (Unanimously car-  
 ried). Amen.

On the mule we find

Two legs behind,  
 And two we find before,

We tickle behind  
 Before we find,

What the two behind before.

—Pelican.



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Capt. Thronson treated his table to a supper in the woods Wednesday night of last week at the new bridge, about a mile north of the school. The youngsters had great sport "Tarzan-ing" among the trees in imitation of their chief book hero, and performing acrobatic stunts on top of the old bridge.

They had wood collected to build their fire and everything in readiness to prepare their supper of eggs, bacon, the proverbial wienies and bread, when they were informed that a bull was occupying the same woods. Rather than have any dispute with that lordly animal, the boys hurriedly sought safer quarters.

Capt. Thronson acted as chief cook. The bacon was burned to a crisp the eggs black, as well as greasy, the wienies had quite as many ashes upon them as usual, and everything went beautifully until Bovill accidentally kicked some dirt upon the bacon and Nettleton fell into dire disgrace because of having upset a skillet of eggs into the fire.

The cadets in the party were Wiles, Frederickson, Bovill, Scott, Nettleton, Swanson, Brazelton, Myers, Hartnett and Price T.

Mrs. Shideler and her infant son, Raymon, Jr., have been visiting for the past three weeks with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. Henry, at Silver Lake, Kansas. Mr. Shideler reports that both Mrs. Shideler and the Baby are well and having a most enjoyable visit. They expect to be absent for another two weeks. Mrs. Shideler, it will be recalled, is only just regaining her strength after her long and serious illness during Christmas and the new year, and it is sincerely hoped that she will come back from her visit home thoroughly recuperated.

Mr. Shideler has also been absent recently. His first trip, we regret to say, was not of a very pleasant nature, he having gone to Topeka to see his sister, who lies in hospital very dangerously ill. She had been operated on and while last reports say she was doing as well as could be expected, yet it is a very hard fight for her. We trust that by this time she has rallied and will eventually be restored to health.

Mr. Shideler made his second trip March 23rd to attend the Sunday School and Young Peoples convention held in Gypsum, March 23 and 24 by the Central Baptist Association, of which he is president.

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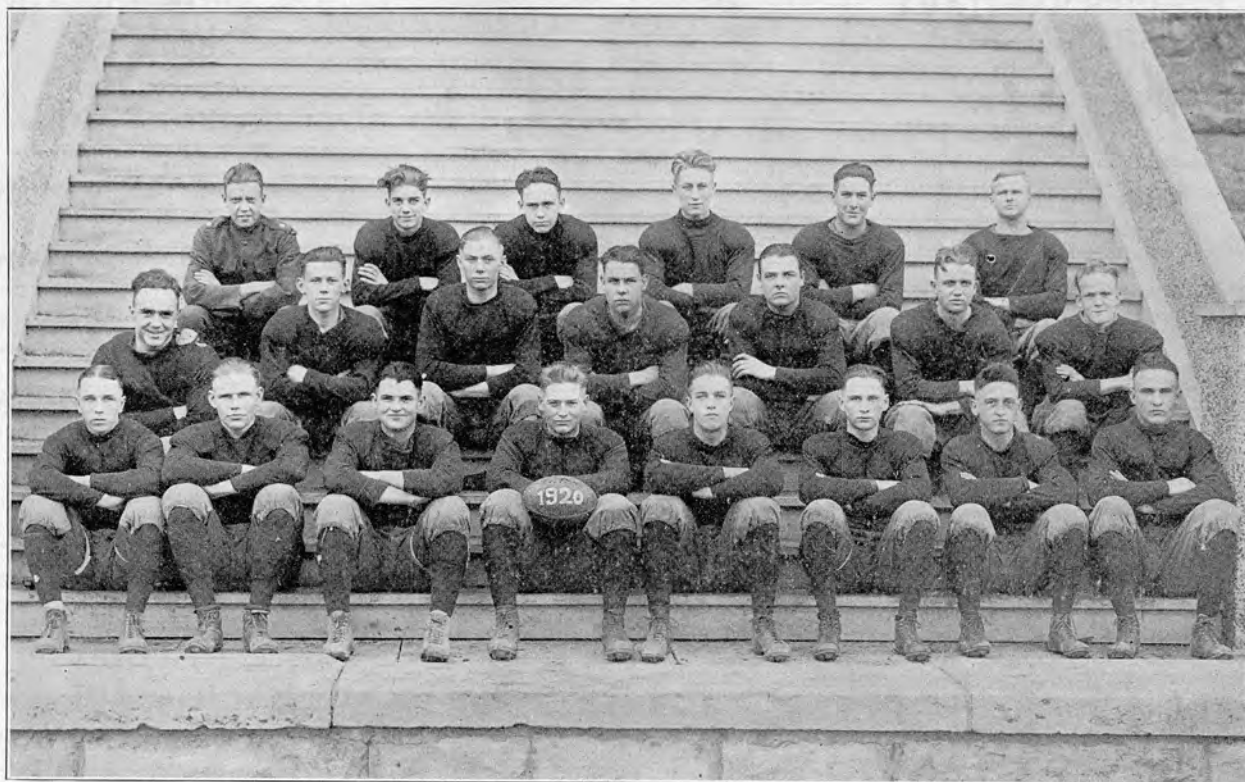
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