

The Skirmisher

ST. JOHN'S MILITARY SCHOOL, SALINA, KANSAS

Vol. IV.

COMMENCEMENT NUMBER, JUNE, 1921

No. 7

PRIZE ESSAY

"THE PRINCIPLES AND SERVICE OF ROTARY" WINS METAL

Cadet Robert H. Mize, Jr., recently won the medal awarded annually by the National Society Colonial Daughters, of Washington, D. C., for the best essay written in the school on a patriotic subject. The subject he selected for his essay was "The Principles and Service of Rotary." Six essays were written by cadets of St. John's, and Robert's was given first place by the judges. In the competition for these medals last year, 150,000 essays were written throughout the United States, and only 300 medals were awarded. The essay follows:

"The Principles and Service of Rotary"

Rotary is a fraternity and a business organization without ritual or secrets, the purpose of which is to promote service and good fellowship. The six objects which Rotary encourages I will endeavor to explain.

"High moral standards in business and professions"—It has been questioned whether the Golden Rule is practical in business, for some believe that this is an unattainable ideal, but Rotary takes an opposite view. There are few things which do not change as the world goes on, but Rotary realizes that right is still right, and wrong is wrong. In other words this organization recognizes a standard of right and wrong by which the business or professional man may test his life and conduct.

"The idea of service as the basis of all worthy enterprise." There have been times when politics and business brought one profit, instead of the services one rendered to his community. More recently trade union organizations have put the public to discomfort by strikes. But Rotary believes that enterprises must be built on the ground of loyal service, and the organization has taken for its slogans

"Service, not self" and "He profits most who serves best."

"The active interest of every Rotarian in the civic, commercial, social and moral welfare of his community." Rotary Clubs are now trying to produce a word which will mean to a community what "Patriotism" means to a nation. Though they are without that word, Rotarians usually take as their highest ideal the honor of doing their duty in the section of that country which gave birth to their club.

"The development of a large acquaintanceship as an opportunity for service and an aid to success." Many communities are suffering through lack of acquaintance, as often this brings on strife and dislike among the people. Citizens cannot build up and take a part in community spirit without good fellowship and co-operation. Rotary brings men and their families together through three ways; first, by the comradeship of work, for it takes men from different religions and social standings and sets them pulling on the same rope; second, by playing together, for Rotary believes in being a child all your life, and although some men find it difficult to play once again, and lose their dignity, they find that it brings more friends and closer intimacy; third, by familiarity, for Rotarians are required to call a fellow club-member by his given name.

"The interchange of ideas and business methods as a means of increasing one's efficiency and usefulness." Rotary gives this opportunity to its members, which is both educational and instructive. This is another direct way of making our nation better as a whole, for each man thus gains the best knowledge of how to handle and care for his business.

"The recognition of the worthiness of all legitimate occupations and the dignifying of the occupation of each Rotarian as affording him an opportunity to serve society." The true Rotarian looks upon his business as a God-given opportunity to serve man-

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COMMENCEMENT

ST. JOHN'S COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES—HELD MAY 28-30

The Commencement Exercises of St. John's Military School were held from Saturday, May 28 to Monday, May 30. The parents of many of the cadets were present and a large gathering of spectators from the city and vicinity also attended.

On Saturday, May 28 the exercises consisted of the annual Field Meet between the Army and Navy Clubs into which the school is divided, resulting in a victory for the Navy. The Commencement Dance followed Saturday night, and about 200 were present. The gymnasium had been beautifully decorated by the upper classmen under cadet Robert Snedden.

On Sunday, May 29 the Cadet Corps attended Christ's Cathedral in a body and the baccalaureate sermon was preached and the diplomas presented to the graduating class by the Rt. Rev. Robt. H. Mize, Bishop of Salina. The graduates were: Verne Ross of St. John, Kansas; Lawrence Bigelow, Augusta, Kansas; Waldron Sanders, Courtland, Kansas; Harry Gray, Platte, South Dakota; Lynn Christensen, Platte, South Dakota; Gilbert Smith, Denver, Colorado; Merritt Stiles, Denver, Colorado; John Fleming, Denver, Colorado; Harold Brewer, Havre, Montana; Edward Sudendorf, Salina, Kansas.

On Sunday afternoon the exercises consisted of formal Guard Mounting, a Band Concert by the cadet Band, Dress Parade and awarding of the State and School commissions and warrants to the cadet officers. Those receiving commissions from both the State and School were: Cadet Major Lawrence Bigelow; Cadet Captain Verne Ross; Cadet Captain Lydon Lippincott; Cadet First Lieutenant Kenneth Harris; Cadet First Lieutenant Waldron Sanders; Cadet First Lieutenant Edward Sudendorf; Cadet Second Lieutenant John Fleming; Ca-

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PRIZE ESSAY

(Continued from Page One)

kind, and this thought dignifies any kind of lawful occupation. The author, Henry Drummond, says, "An office is not merely a place for making money; it is a place for making men. Work is given man not only because the world needs it, but because the workmen need it."

Rotary Clubs are not only carrying out these six patriotic objects in the United States, but in Great Britain, Ireland, Canada, Cuba, Argentina, Uruguay, India, and China. It shows not only love for ones' own country, but it is a true test of unselfishness to spread the Rotarian ideals, which originated in the United States, throughout the world. One leading man of every lawful occupation in large towns of these nine countries is a Rotarian. The number of these leaders is about 75,000, and they are trying to abide by these moral and patriotic rules. If a member for any reason is not interested enough so that he misses four consecutive meetings, by a national club rule he is dropped from the organization.

Of all the many good deeds of Rotary Clubs, the work among boys is perhaps given the most attention, for the boys of today are the men of tomorrow, and it will be up to them to maintain the standards of our country. Many clubs are averting criminal careers by securing good positions for lawless boys. Committees are appointed in most clubs to give personal attention to the home, school, and church influence of boys, and to have them become Boy Scouts. To show that these patriotic efforts are accomplished I will give a few examples. The Hutchinson Rotary Club has obtained a summer camp for boys who have not the care and privileges which others have; they are securing positions for boys as they leave the State Reformatory or are sending word to the Club where the boy goes; they have organized two Boy Scout troops, and are now planning to obtain a farm to give them work and care.

The Salina Rotary Club, is an exceedingly energetic organization. They are taking the opportunity of combining their play and good times with helping the community, including the boys. A minstrel show has been given recently, the fund being used for a cabin, where the boys of Salina can have outings during the summer. A picnic, to which all the

boys of Salina were invited, was given in order that the men and boys might start the work upon the cabin. Moving pictures, in the form of educational films have been shown, both for the boys' recreation and knowledge, and the club has obtained the services of Doctor Barker to give interesting talks to them. Rotarians have helped the Boy Scouts in their waste paper campaign; and in order to get into personal touch with the scouts, they have baseball games together. Ten or twelve "under-privileged boys," as those are called who do not have the chances of others will be sent this year for a summer outing to Camp Wood, a Y. M. C. A. camp near Emporia. A homeless orphan boy who has been "making good" on a farm, has recently been adopted by a Rotarian's family and now lives in one of the finest homes in Salina. An active part in the "back to school movement" has met with pleasing results. The Salina Club believes, as do all Rotary Clubs that a child's play is not a luxury, but a necessity; and that it is one of the biggest factors in health. It also reduces the juvenile delinquency, the number of criminals and insane, and it produces a better type of man and woman. For these reasons the Salina Rotary is providing camps for boys, and is obtaining playground apparatus for schools. Moreover, they have done countless other good deeds; furnishing speakers for four-minute talks at public gatherings; putting over Liberty Bond and Red Cross drives; and through their efforts a swimming pool and barracks were obtained for the Industrial School at Topeka. Many other good turns are expected from Salina Rotary, and they look forward to a prosperous future.

The leading representatives of three nations, President Harding of the greatest Republic in the world, the Prince of Wales of the greatest Kingdom in the world, and King Albert of the noblest country in the world, are all American Rotary Club members. The character of its members, the ideals of Rotary, and the steady plugging of each club for its own community, makes the Rotary organization a patriotic organization in the truest sense of the word.

Thomas: What is a blotter?

Ritchie: I don't know. What is it?

Thomas: Something to hunt for while the ink dries.—Western M. A. Shrapnel.

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C. Harold Brewer, Havre, Montana:

Corporal (promoted to Lieutenant, Commencement 1921); Band 1920, 1921; Orchestra 1921; Football Squad 1919, 1920; Basketball Squad 1921; Crack Squad 1921; Sports Editor of "The Skirmisher"; Bugler 1920, 1921; Phi Delta Sigma; Army Club.

John F. Fleming (Choke), Denver, Colorado:

Lieutenant B Company; Band 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920; Orchestra 1920; Manager Football Team 1920; Manager Basketball Team 1921; Crack Squad 1919; Captain 1921; Secretary-Treasurer Senior Class; Dance Committee 1919, 1920, 1921; Phi Delta Sigma; Army Club.

Harry T. Gray, Platte, So. Dakota:

Band; Orchestra 1921; Art Editor of "The Skirmisher" Crack Squad; Kappa Delta Phi; Army Club.

Verne R. Ross (Bob), St. John, Kans.:

Captain A Company; Football Team 1919, 1920; Basketball Team 1920, 1921; President Junior Class; President Senior Class; Phi Delta Sigma; Captain Navy Club.

Waldron Sanders (Ole), Courtland, Kansas:

First Lieutenant A Company; Football Team 1919, 1920; Basketball Squad 1921; President Athletic Board of Control 1921; Kappa Delta Phi; Army Club.

Gilbert R. Smith (Gil), Denver, Colo.:

Corporal Company A; Editor in Chief of "The Skirmisher"; Crack Squad 1921; Army Club.

Edward Julian Sudendorf, (Sudie), Salina, Kansas:

First Lieutenant and Adjutant; Cheer Leader 1919, 1920, 1921; Kappa Delta Phi; Navy Club.

Merritt L. Stiles (M), Denver, Colorado:

Color Sergeant; Chapel Organist; Kappa Delta Phi; Army Club.

Lynn Christensen, (Christy), Platte, South Dakota:

Football Squad 1921; Phi Delta Sigma; Crack Squad; Army Club.

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The Changing Weather

Not long ago one could look out over the campus and rejoice with the birds that spring was here; but alas, just recently there came a wave of freezing weather that knocked all his hopes sky high. The beautiful green shoots of the flags all around the bull-ring were crimped with the cold, and the leaves and buds that showed such promise received a severe set-back, some being nipped off entirely. While he apples and pears were not so severely damaged, yet most, if not all of the stone fruit was destroyed.

Now, however, the sun is beaming on us again, and the foliage, encouraged by his balmy rays, is putting forth with renewed vigor, affording us a splendid lesson in perseverance, and in taking life's set-backs with a smile and a determination to push out again likewise with renewed vigor. Clouds will come and clouds will go; the thing is to keep our eyes peeled always for the silver lining.

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SUMMER SCHOOL

The summer session at St. John's will open this year on Monday, June 27, and continue until August 20, a period of eight weeks. The courses offered will be of grade school standard, as the summer session is intended for young boys only. The work will be mainly reviews of the past year's work, but in some cases boys will be permitted to take advance work with a view of getting a good start with their next year's work.

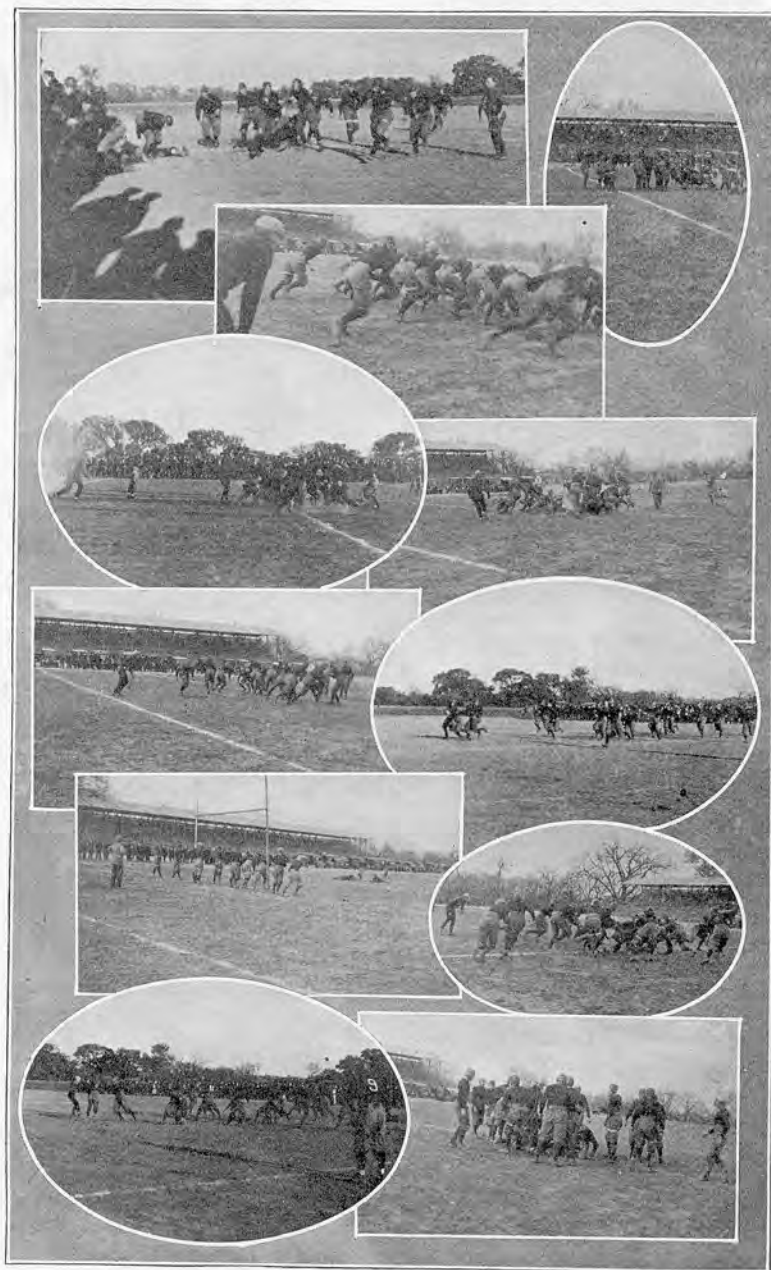
One of the main advantages of the summer session is that it bridges over the long period of the summer vacation, during which the average boy puts thought of school and studies as far from him as is possible and consequently, in the diversity of vacation activities, manages to unlearn or forget completely all that he has been at such pains to acquire during the school year.

It must not be supposed, however, that studying is the only occupation of the cadet during the summer session; far from it. Studies will last only during the morning, with a break of half an hour for recess; while the whole of the afternoon and evening, after a short drill period, will be devoted to healthful outdoor exercises under the supervision of an instructor.

An important feature of the summer school at St. John's is the camp. Major Ganssle is planning to take the cadets this year to a new camp site in the woods, about 3 1/2 miles from the school, where a cabin has already been prepared for just such camp outings through the kind efforts of the Rotary Club, of which Major Ganssle

is president. The duration of camp will be conditioned upon the amount of work accomplished in school before the time for going into camp. The boys soon realize this, and therefore some good work, and a good time in camp can be counted upon again this year.

Already several new boys have been enrolled for the summer term, and it is up to the "regular cadets" who return for summer school to show these new comers a good time and so interest them in St. John's that they will plan to return as regular cadets themselves in the fall.



SOME EXCITING MOMENTS

Shot Meant For Him

Interlocutor—"Say, Tambo, some time ago I asked you to supply my family with turkeys, didn't I?"

Tambo—"Yessah."

Interlocutor—"And I told you that I wanted tame ones, not wild."

Tambo—"Yessah."

Interlocutor—"Well, that last one you sent us was a wild turkey."

Tambo—"No, it wasn't boss."

Interlocutor—"But I found some shot in it."

Tambo—"Well, sah, boss, dat was a tame bird alright. Dat shot was meant for me."—The Marion Line.

COMMENCEMENT

(Continued from Page One)

det Second Lieutenant Ronald McDonald.

The State commissions were signed by Governor Allen, the Secretary of State, and the Adjutant General.

Cadet Harold Brewer, member of the Band, received a School commission as a Second Lieutenant, and all the non-commissioned officers received school warrants.

On Monday, May 30, the last day of the exercises, the program consisted of Competitive Drill, Buglers' Contest, and the Alumni Luncheon. On account of inclement weather, the drill had to be held indoors.

The names of the winners of these contests, as well as winners of all other school events, scholarship and athletic trophies, appear in the following program of the Alumni Luncheon, at which the trophies were presented.

Alumni Luncheon Program

Song—"S. J. M. S. Forever."

Blessing—The Rt. Rev. Robt. H. Mize, Bishop of the District of Salina.

Athletic-Scholarship Medal—Presented by Mr. John Eberhardt of Salina; Won by Daniel Schaffner of Emporia, Kansas.

(This medal awarded to the cadet who wins his letter as a member of a first athletic team, and who has the highest academic standing).

Commandant's Medal—Presented by Colonel Fred Fitzpatrick, U. S. Marshal for the State of Kansas; Won by Sergt. Major Elmer Hill of Denver. (For ranking highest in the Competitive Manual of Arms).

Military Medal—Presented by Major J. L. Wier, U. S. M. A., Commandant; Won by Corp. Gilbert Smith of Denver. (For ranking highest for the year in military efficiency and neatness).

Athletics Medals—Presented by Major J. L. Wier; Won by

1st Class gold medal: Donald Pattison.

2nd Class gold medal: Arza Marrs.

3rd Class silver medal: Chas. Parker.

3rd Class silver medal: Robt. Linville.

4th Class silver medal: Albert Smith.

(For highest number of points in their respective classes in the annual Army-Navy field meet).

Christian Manliness Medal—Presented by the Rev. Chas. H. McKnight, Chaplain; Won by Corp. Francis Wilson, of Abilene, Kansas. (To cadet

who exemplified by his daily life the truest and noblest christian manhood, and who best uses his religion to improve himself and others).

Roosevelt Medal—Presented by the Rev. Chas. H. McKnight, Chaplain; Won by Cadet Robert Mize, Jr., Salina, Kansas. (Given by Colonel Dames for best essay on a patriotic subject).

Bugler's Cup—Presented by Major Roy Perkins, Salina, Kansas; Won by Corp. Marion Dougherty, Dodge City, Kansas; (winner of Buglers' contest.)

Lower School Medal—Presented by Mr. Keith Thronson (in charge of Lower School); Won by Cadet Carrol Sanger, Salina, Kansas, (for making most satisfactory record for year in the Lower School).

Army and Navy Medal—Presented by Maj. W. L. Ganssle, Superintendent. Won by the Navy Club—Capt. Verne Ross, St. John, Kansas, (for making highest number of points during year).

Sage Memorial Medal—Presented by the Very Rev. Henry S. Sizer, Dean of Christ Cathedral, Salina; Won by Corp. Joe Hines, Spring Hill, Kansas. (Given by Mrs. John C. Sage in memory of the Rt. Rev. John C. Sage, late Bishop of Salina, to cadet showing greatest development in the school year).

School Medals—Presented by Maj. W. L. Ganssle. Won by:

Kenneth Harris, 56 points—gold.

Lydon Lippincott, 42 points—gold.

Verne Ross, 35 points—silver.

Donald Pattison, 33 points—silver.

Dan. Schaffner, 32 points—bronze.

Waldron Sanders, 30 points—bronze.

(Given for highest general ability and best school spirit).

Scholarship Cups and Trophies—Presented by the Rt. Rev. R. H. Mize, (for highest scholastic attainment for year).

Sixth Form—1st. Verne Rose, average 92.2; 2nd. Merritt Stiles, average 92.1.

Fifth Form—1st. Daniel Schaffner, average 93.3; 2nd. Robert Snedden, average 88.5.

Fourth Form—1st. Jefferson Schlesinger, average 89.3; 2nd. Melvin Jackson, average 86.8.

Third Form—1st. Robert Mize, Jr., average 90.8. 2nd. David Wheeler, average 90.7.

Second Form—1st. Edgar Hender-shot, average 88.6; 2nd. Max Tanner, average 84.9.

First Form—1st. George Frederick-

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son, average 85.1; 2nd. Clifford Wiles, average 84.4.

Shell Form—1st. Tom Price, average 86.02; 2nd. Walter Brazelton, average 85.03.

Song—First and last verses of "America" followed by "God be with us till we meet again."

Benediction—The Rt. Rev. Robt. H. Mize, Bishop of Salina.

The School Orchestra furnished music at the Commencement and at the close of the Luncheon.

After the Alumni Luncheon the cadets were assembled in the last formation at which Retreat was sounded and the colors lowered, and school was over.

The Badges for the 16 Marksmen and the Sharpshooter—Capt. Verne Ross—who qualified on the Rifle Range at Camp this spring, had not been received in time for presentation at the Alumni Luncheon. These will be forwarded to those entitled to them.

Former Cadet Writes

The following letter was received early this spring from Alan Rispin, a former cadet at St. John's from 1917-1919. Alan is now attending Hitchcock Military Academy at San Rafael, Calif., where his parents have made their home. We are very pleased to hear from Alan, and wish him every success in his new school. Alan's letter reads:

You no doubt have thought that I was at least dead or something out here Major, for I have never written you since I left; and I certainly wish to apologize. I happened to be reading one of the old "Skirmishers" a while ago and it made me feel blue because of the remembrances of my former chums etc.

I certainly do wish good old St. John's the very best of luck in all athletics, and I'm sure they will be able to take care of all comers.

I am attending the Hitchcock Military Academy in California, and we have a fine aggregation here. I am a junior here and am doing splendidly, thanks to my careful training at good old St. John's. I also have the unique honor of captaining the football team here for two years in succession. We have had two very successful seasons, winning in the first season nine out of ten games, and the last season losing two out of eight games played. This coming year we intend going out for the state championship, and by all the so-called "dope" we have the very best of chances for winning.

You will probably remember me as a little mischievous kid in the freshman class. I'm afraid, however, Major, that you wouldn't ever know me now; I've changed a great deal, and I give all the credit to my early teaching at St. John's.

I would appreciate it very much indeed if you would send me the copies of the "Skirmisher" so I may follow the activities of the school and I again repeat that I wish you the very best of luck in all manner and means. I should like very much to be remembered to any of the teachers or boys that may happen to remember me, and also send my sincerest regards to Mrs. Ganssle.

Yours very sincerely,
ALAN RISPIN.

Sergt. to Private: You're up after taps?

Private: No sir; I'm up after a drink of water.—Western M. A. Shrapnel.

Attends Ministers' Picnic

The Chaplain of St. John's accepted an invitation from the Ministerial Association of Salina to join with them in the annual outing. The day selected proved to be the hottest day of June. The starting point was the "Y" building. The Chaplain hurried down town for a one-thirty departure, but as usual on similar occasions there was no need of hurry. No one appeared to have the slightest connection between a particular time and a particular departure. However, in the course of events there was a "leaving." The Chaplain was invited to ride the twenty-six miles to the Peterson Grove with the pastor of the Baptist Church and his family. The drive to Brookville was enjoyed for speed and scenery. The country was beautiful with the colorings of an opening harvest time.

The Peterson farms are six miles south of Brookville, and the grove at which tourists are welcome contains some wonderful trees and a tennis court. Notwithstanding the abundance of rain which came in the spring and early summer, the brook was dry. It was after four o'clock before all were present or "accounted for." Dr. McFadden of the Methodist Church, who had charge of the provisions, was "accounted for,"—he had a puncture on leaving his garage.

Tennis and "throwing horseshoes" were the amusements of the athletes. The women of the party were not permitted to have any part in the preparing and serving of the supper. The efficient ministers attended to every preliminary, and a hearty meal was served in spite of the fact that the salad was forgotten in the excitement of a mishap. An abundance of ice cream marked the occasion, and when one of the "sons" was asked to take one more helping he refused. Some of the party wondered, some praised, and some condemned. But the boy with ready wit, wishing to justify himself, told a story of a certain other boy, who having indulged in eating many buckwheat cakes, passed his plate for more. His mother said, "Willie, if you eat another one you will burst." The boy replied, "Well, mother, give me another and get out of the way."

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Meridyth—Why I don't know.
Tommy—Because it covers a block.
—The Patriot, Leavenworth, H. S.

Jones: What is the first thing that turns green in the spring?
Brown: I don't know. What?
Jones: Christmas jewelry.—The Pa-
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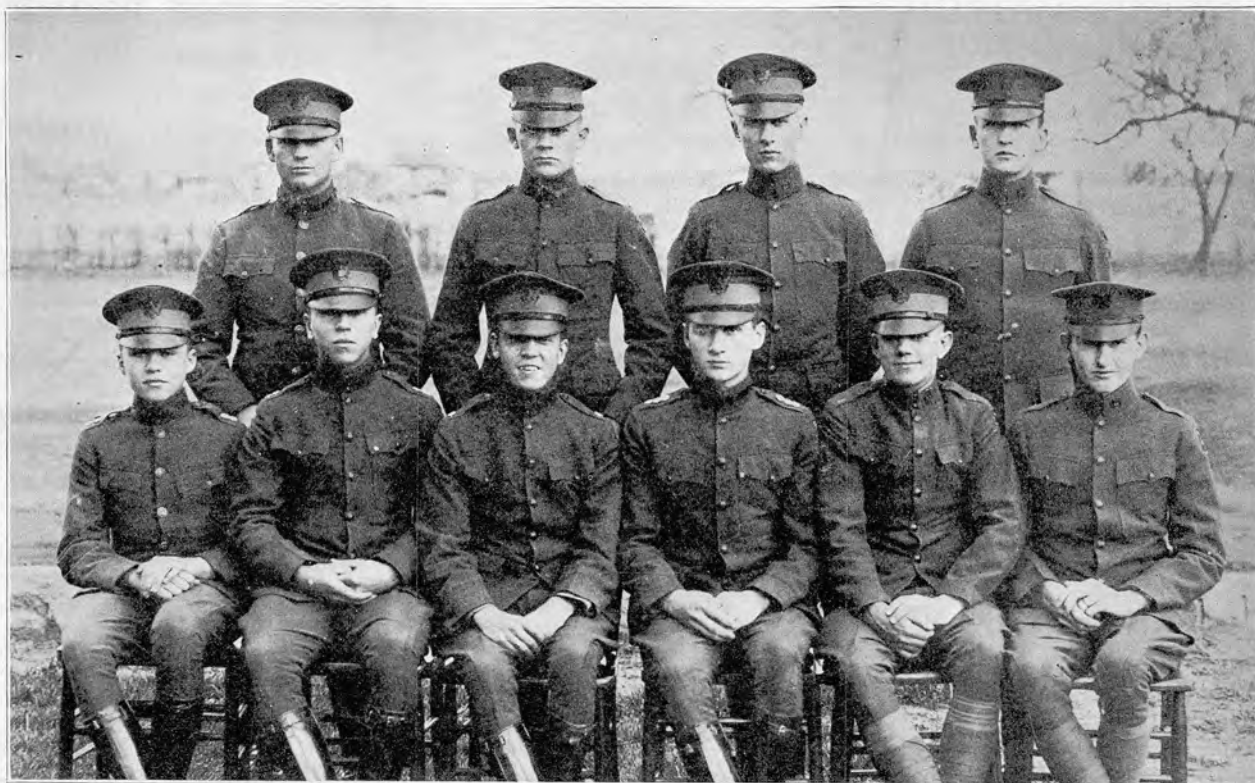
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