

Vacation Number

The Skirmisher

ST. JOHN'S MILITARY SCHOOL, SALINA, KANSAS

Vol. VI.

AUGUST 20, 1923

No. 10

THE SUMMER SCHOOL

Summer School commenced this year on June 26th, the same date as last year, and while our enrollment is not quite as large as last year's, we have a fine group of boys who are working strenuously to make up some of last year's back work or to get an advance on next term, while at the same time enjoying the various outdoor activities during the afternoons and evenings. The list of cadets in attendance this summer is as follows:

Mac Abbott, of Salina
James Andrews of Wichita
Jack Chenoweth of Concordia
Thomas Conklin of Colorado Springs
Robert Crooks of Denver
Conrad Eriksen of Lawrence, Kans.
Harry Fuhrman of El Dorado, Kan.
Charles Golike of El Dorado, Kan.
Herbert Golike of El Dorado, Kan.
Billy Hebenstreet of Kansas City, Mo.
Willis Hoskinson of Turon, Kans.
Harvey Moe of Scandia, Kans.
John McElhenie of Kansas City, Mo.
Frederick Newton of Hutchinson, Kans.
Charles Ripley of Salina
Edward Ripley of Salina
Colin C. Rae of Denver
Kermit Roth of Emporia, Kans.

Several new cadets appear on the list, and The Skirmisher wishes to remind the "old boys" that it is up to them again to show these new St. John's cadets a good time and to help them get the spirit of St. John's, so that they will get the best possible results from their summer spent here and will want to return as regulars in the fall.

We are glad to have Mr. Waldron Sanders (Ole) back again this summer to assist with the duties of instructing and planning recreational activities for the cadets.

As last year, the boys are divided into two clubs, the Blacks and the Oranges, who have been competing in various games. The Blacks have won most of the points and were

treated to a "feed" on the campus by the losing club. The picnic was held on Wednesday night, Aug. 15th.

A change in the usual plans for the summer session was made this year, in that the regular eight-day encampment was replaced by week-end camping trips to different sites where good swimming was to be had, such as Mr. Bob White's Ford, Bennington, Arcola and the Boy Scout cabin northeast of the school. These week-end parties afforded a welcome break in the regular routine and were immensely popular.

Summer School closed on Saturday, August 18th. The Golike brothers, Fred Newton, Billy Shirk and Colin Rae will remain at St. John's after the close of school.

CLUB FEED

The two clubs into which the summer school cadets are divided have been holding contests in the various athletic activities, and the rule has been that the losing club should treat the winners to a "feed." The Blacks won and the "feed" was held Wednesday night, Aug. 15th. A big camp fire was lighted and the party was enlivened by boxing matches while the refreshments were being prepared. There were orange sherbet and delicious cake and cookies in abundance, and everyone came back for "thirds" and one, we are told, tendered his dish for "fifths". The party broke up at tattoo.

Clyde McCormick writes from Altus, Okla., to say that he is working for the Western Union Telegraph Co. He says he thought he would turn out to be an army captain at the rate he was walking the Bull Ring at St. John's. He feels grateful to the fellow at St. John's who had a telegraph instrument and put the idea into his head of becoming an operator. He will try to visit the school on his vacation.

ST. JOHN'S COMMANDANT

Major Roy Perkins Fills Place Formerly Held by Major Wier.

St. John's is very fortunate in having on the faculty Major Roy W. Perkins, who will fill the vacancy left by Major Wier as Commandant. This is Major Perkins' second year at St. John's, and his record over seas, as well as at the school, makes him undoubtedly a most efficient successor.

Captain Franklin C. Davies will assume the duties of Assistant Commandant.

We regret very much to lose our Commandant and Athletic Coach, Major J. L. Weir, who has accepted a position at Lake Forest Academy, Lake Forest, Ill.

Major and Mrs. Wier have been at St. John's four years and have contributed largely to the growth and success of the school. Due to Major Wier's untiring efforts our athletic teams have made wonderful advancement in these years, winning many honors for the school which reflect great credit on his superior coaching.

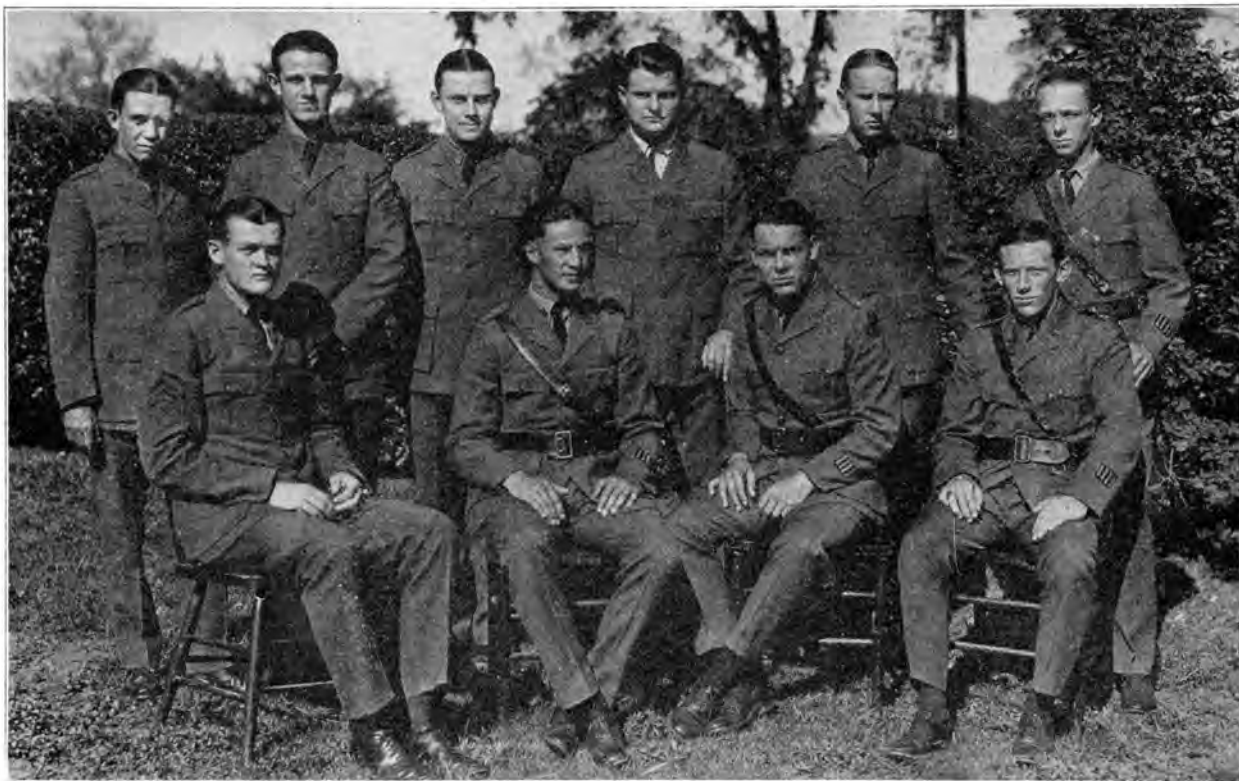
Major and Mrs. Wier left about the middle of June for their new home. They have been attending summer school at Northwestern University and their letters show great enthusiasm for their work.

St. John's wishes them much happiness in their new school and hopes to have the pleasure of a visit from them at their first opportunity.

CAPTAIN HASS ACCEPTS PRINCIPALSHIP

Capt. Virgil S. Hass has received an appointment to a splendid position as principal of a large new public school in Paola, Kans. He left St. John's at Commencement to go to Pittsburg, Kans., where he is attending a ten-weeks summer course at the State Teachers' Normal.

We were indeed sorry to see him go and wish him a very enjoyable and successful year in his new school.



THE CLASS OF 1923

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Friday morning, August 10th, the day of our late President's funeral was observed at St. John's by a fitting memorial service from 10 o'clock to 11:30 a. m.

The service opened with a prayer and the singing of two hymns, after which a series of declamations was given by the cadets of the Summer School and an address by Dr. F. W. Clark.

The Funeral Procession, by Cadet James Andrews

President Harding's Last Journey, by Cadet Frederick Newton

President Harding's Family, by Cadet Thomas Conklin

President Harding in Politics, by Cadet Harry Fuhrman

President Harding's Cabinet, by Cadet Willis Hoskinson

President Harding's Boyhood and Youth, by Cadet Harvey Moe

President Harding, the Publisher by Cadet John McElhenie

President Coolidge, by Cadet Conrad Eriksen

Presidents who have died in office and Vice Presidents who have succeeded them, by Cadet Kermit Roth

Ex-Presidents and Ex-Vice Presidents living today, and their present occupations, by Cadet Mac Abbott

The First President of the United States, by Cadet Edward Ripley

The First Colony Planted in America, by Cadet Billy Shirk

The Declaration of Independence, by Cadet Charles Ripley

After this part of the program had been rendered, Dr. F. W. Clark very kindly spoke to the school, giving vivid descriptions and most interesting facts connected with his own associations with the late President at Marion, where the doctor lived prior to coming out to the west. He told his own experiences as a newsboy, when he used to carry papers for The Marion Star, the President's own newspaper; how Mrs. Harding used to assist the newsboys in counting out their papers for them, and how the President, who had no boys of his own, would frequently be seen with a little newsboy on his lap, to all of which everyone listened with the keenest interest. We were very fortunate in being able to secure Dr. Clark for this service, and to have him tell us of his own associations with President Harding. Dr. Clark's father used to play in the band with President Harding.

The whole school assembled again in the afternoon for silent meditation during the five minutes from three o'clock to three-thirty.

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THE CHAPLAIN AT THE ANNUAL

The last Friday afternoon in June was the time appointed for the Annual Outing of the Ministers of Salina. The Chaplain of St. John's School received an invitation and Captain Allen made it possible for him to be the first arrival. As a matter of fact he preceded the invitation.

Familiar Oakdale was the place selected, and it was not a long time before a party of forty people was gathered together. The supper, the principal event of the evening, was prepared and served by a caterer, so there was no opportunity for Dr. McFadden to forget all about bringing the salad. Dr. McFadden, who had at the time declined to leave Salina because he was happy in the growing city of the middle of the State, was present. Dr. Clokey, the genial Presbyterian pastor who is leading in the completion of a notable place of worship and fellowship, was on hand and performed the exacting duties of tax collector. Dr. Bowers, who as an educator is seldom in Salina at the close of June, enjoyed the feast. Dr. Lantz, Dean of the Salina pastors, enlivened the party with his stories and anecdotes. Pastor Findley, the President of the Ministerial Association for the coming year, saw how it was done. Dean Hoag arrived at the third and last call, and enjoyed making friends with the lambs of the pastoral flock.

The "Annual" for 1923 was brief, and as the school boy would proclaim, "snappy".

School opens for the regular session on Wednesday, September 12th, at 5 p. m. Start the school year right by arriving at school on time.

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THE TROPHY CASE

Towards the close of school last spring an interesting new feature was added to the equipment at St. John's when a handsome trophy case was installed in the main hall to display the various cups and medals awarded annually to leaders in the school's activities. This attractive case was the gift of the student body to the school, and the credit for the idea and its realization goes to Major Harold G. Condon, who took charge of all arrangements, and with the able assistance of Major Perkins and Capt. Bailey worked hard to get it installed and decorated ready for Commencement. Mr. Frank Bangs very kindly gave the felt lining for the case.

Some of the cups and other trophies are now on display, and Mr. Bangs has assured us that next year's cups and medals will be here by the time school reopens in September.

The display of the trophies in this beautiful case should prove of great inspirational value to the school, as providing a constant silent challenge to every cadet to put forth his very best effort, not just to beat his neighbor to a prize, but to improve his own record and take pride in this improvement.

On Sunday, August 5th Mrs. Mercer and her daughter, Mrs. Green, with Master Clarence Green, entertained Capt. and Mrs. Allen and their families, and cadets MacAbbott and Billy Hebenstreet, at a delightful lunch at the Junior School Building. The Menu consisted of chicken, ham and veal sandwiches, slaw salad, potato salad, deviled eggs, chipped potatoes, olives, pickles, cheese, spice cakes, fancy cookies, orange sherbet, iced lemonade and iced tea. After the lunch Captains Shideler and Allen drove the party to Benington, returning at about five o'clock.

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Watch for the new drawing of the school buildings appearing in the Kansas City Star and Times and the Denver Post. We know the attractive view of the buildings will appeal especially to St. John's "old boys."

Some of the summer school cadets have discovered a rabbit's nest right on the campus, and are taking interest in watching the development of the young cotton-tails.

The Rev. F. R. Myers, formerly Chaplain and Headmaster at St. John's has recently resigned as assistant rector of St. James' Episcopal Church, Cass and Huron Streets, Chicago, and has accepted a call to be rector of the Church of the Mediator, 110th St. and So. Hoyne Ave., Chicago."

Captain Allen attended the summer session of the Kansas Wesleyan University, where he took courses in psychology and French. As his first class was at 7:10 every morning, first call at 6:15 will be a less unwelcome sound for him this winter. He is planning to take courses in English and Science at the University during the coming year.

Colonel Ganssle, Captain Davies and Mrs. Kate Ripley are travelling in the interests of the School. Colonel Ganssle is on an extended tour of Colorado, with headquarters in Denver; Mrs. Ripley is visiting the towns in the southeastern part of Kansas; while Capt. Davies is "doing" Oklahoma. Judging from the number of inquiries and applications that are constantly being received in the office, prospects are very bright for a full school this fall.

Mrs. F. C. Davies left the first week in August for Lake Mills, Wisconsin,

where she is to attend her sister's wedding as Matron of Honor. Captain Davies is planning to go up to Wisconsin for the wedding and accompany Mrs. Davies back to Salina about the end of August.

Mrs. Mercer enjoyed a visit from her daughter, Mrs. Kinkade and family of Kansas City during the latter part of July. Mrs. Kinkade was preparing for her vacation trip to Seattle, Washington. Mrs. Green, of Salina, another daughter of Mrs. Mercer, has been visiting her frequently during the absence of Mr. Green in Goodland, Kansas.

The nation is mourning the loss of its beloved chief, President Warren G. Harding. Our flag is at half-mast, and signs of mourning are everywhere in evidence. St. John's observed the solemn day of his funeral Friday, August 10th, with a fitting memorial service, the program of which appears in another column.

In the hour of our loss let us pause also to consider the wonderful and inspiring example of his noble life, which has many a lesson for all of us. We will not enumerate all the qualities that marked him a great man, in the greatest sense of the term; but let us note particularly that he was before all else a real Christian gentleman. He loved his fellow men, and was ever loyal to his friends. He had a keen understanding of the fundamental causes of the ills and problems of this age. He was a preacher of the religion of Jesus Christ by deed as well as by word. The outstanding message of his life and death for us is a message of brotherhood. His death has brought together the 110 millions of people of this great country, making all the various opposing political parties compose their differences and stand united to mourn their common loss. His courage, loyalty, genuine simplicity, his fidelity to duty and his keen insight into the national and world problems call forth our highest admiration. We little thought of these qualities or of how much we loved him, until he was suddenly taken from us. The Rev. T. H. Boggess of Kansas City said recently: "The finest message Warren G. Harding delivered to the people of this country was when he was in Colorado Springs. Our President said there: 'I tell you, my countrymen, the world needs more of the Christ.'"

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ST. JOHN'S "OLD BOYS"

While traveling in the interest of the school Colonel Ganssle has had the pleasure of renewing acquaintances with many of the St. John's "old boys."

John Bland (Chief 1916-1920) has recently returned to Tulsa after a two years stay in New York. He has been connected with a prominent brokerage firm in that city and has made many observations concerning the much heralded activities of the "animals" of Wall Street. We naturally would look for the "Bull" in John from past associations, but he will now "Bear" watching. Mrs. Bland and the youngsters are on a short visit to Sheridan, Wyo. with her father.

Kenneth Harris (Fat 1917-1922) is with the Department of "Interior" for the H. D. Lee Mercantile Co. in Kansas City, Mo. It is assumed that this Department of the Interior has nothing to do with the unionall business, but probably is a refined term for "Prune Peddler". Kenneth has been on the job early and late since leaving St. John's a year ago. He must be giving satisfaction, for Mr. Irvin, the treasurer, spoke very highly of him, and Fat has advanced from the shipping room to a real "white collared" position in the sales department, with a nice shiny desk all to himself.

When you visit Excelsior Springs, stop at the New Colonial Hotel. Mrs. Elizabeth Thompson, the mother of our genial "Fat" Thompson, has recently built and equipped this attractive hotel on Broadway. No, boys, Edgar is not to don the uniform of a bell hop this year, for he is returning to St. John's to complete his course. Thompson is also bringing a friend from Excelsior Springs named Daniel Larimer. Dan's parents are operating a delightful cafe known as the "Tea Cup Inn" on South Street, Excelsior Springs. Thus all of your needs can be cared for while in this city by friends who have interests in St. John's in common with you.

Preston Pooley (1921-22) formerly of Leavenworth, Kansas, has been with the Harvey Company News Service since leaving St. John's. Preston started in Topeka, but was later transferred to Dodge City. From there he went to La Junta, Colo., and was then sent to Las Vegas, New Mexico, as Manager of the News Service there. He is now at Topeka temporarily on extra relief assignment. He can be found at the Santa Fe Station in Topeka and will be glad to see any of

the Old Boys who can drop in there on a visit.

Claude Wildes (1921-22) is living with Preston Pooley temporarily. His family is planning to move to Seattle, Washington, in the near future.

Mrs. Mercer, our housemother, received an interesting letter from Lewis Cline (1918-21) recently. It was mailed from some port in China, where Cline visited while touring the world with Uncle Sam's navy. Those who remember Cline's travelling proclivities will be amazed to learn that he has had his fill of seeing the world and is longing to return to the quiet life of St. John's.

"Sunny Jim" Shortt, graduated with class 1923, is a busy man. His friends in Belvue and Wamego complain that he learned to work too hard at St. John's. Now they don't see anything of him, for he is busy helping his father, H. G. Shortt (1893-4-5) on the farm. It is reported that they had to rope him to get him to the celebration in Wamego July 4th. Jim will probably attend the Kansas Agricultural College at Manhattan this fall. Jim's "little" brother Giltner (weighs 205, all solid) is in fine shape for the football squad this fall. His weight and strength would add greatly to our line. Jim is working him out so that Giltner, too, will keep up the record of the Shortt family.

Orris F. Armantrout, our Quartermaster 1922-23, visits Salina very frequently. To be sure, he does not spend a great deal of time at St. John's, but nevertheless we are delighted to see his smiling countenance even though for short periods.

Norvin Gable is with the Stewart Walker Co. at Cox Theatre, Cincinnati. He is a long way from home and is always interested in hearing from any of the old St. John's boys.

Mr. Gottschick, Manager of the Lee Milling Co. of Salina, has spoken very highly of one of our graduates of the class of 1922. Jefferson Schlesinger has been with this company for a year in their Chemical Department.

Preston Hyde (1918-23) of Reading, Kans., is planning to move to Topeka, where he has accepted a position with the State Chemistry Department.

Letters have been received from Bruce Edwards, Howard Riblett and Dan Johnson, from Denver. All of these boys will be back this fall. Dan and Howard are working for their fathers, and Bruce was planning a trip to the Cheyenne Roundup.

Lloyd McWhinney writes to say that

he has a good position driving for the Rocky Mountain Parks Transportation Company. He stays in Estes Park most of the time and likes his work first rate. He says Donald Shields is also at Estes Park and hopes to be able to return to St. John's this fall.

Elmer Hill, our Adjutant and Football Captain 1922-23, is a long way from home seeking green pastures in the northland. He went to Duluth, Minnesota about the middle of the summer. He can be reached at the Y. M. C. A. Duluth, and will be glad to hear from any of the boys.

"Spud" Aldous, our Potato King, is to enter the University of Minnesota this fall.

Gus Shiney is at camp with the Headquarters Battery of the Kansas National Guard. He is planning to enter Fairmount College at Wichita, this fall and his athletic prowess should reflect very creditably upon St. John's. It will be remembered that he was a tower of strength on our football and basketball teams for four years.

Aubrey Greer drifted into Salina recently from his home in Sylvia,

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THE SKIRMISHER EDITORIAL BOARD

Kans. He is working at the school now and plans to remain until he graduates.

Bob Kirkpatrick (1922) of Alamosa, has been at the University of Colorado at Boulder during the past year. He wrote recently about prospective St. John's cadets in his section, and feels confident that there will be a few new boys to do him credit. He was initiated with Richard Hamm into the Chi Psi fraternity. Lydon Lipincott (1922) was pledged Chi Psi at Boulder, but went to work in the oil fields of California before he was initiated.

Sam Sabor 1916-1918, visited the school on a business trip through this section of the country. He is interested in the chemical business with his father and covers this territory twice a year.

Bob Dalton (1923) of St. George, Kans., visited recently on his way to Boulder, Colo., where he and his family are spending the summer.

Delbert Dimmick, ex-heavy-weight boxer, who divided the honors with Sam Sabor, again visited St. John's. He was with the Lost Battalion of engineers during the war and was severely injured in service. He has been attending the Kansas State Agricultural College Engineering School

during the past year, but is going to Ames, Iowa, to complete his work. His disability entitled him to vocational training at the expense of the government.

Capt. Davies recently saw Drew Hartnett while on his trip through southwestern Kansas. Drew is living at Stafford and is doing exceptionally well.

Our sympathy goes out to Elbert Corpeny of Kansas City, who recently lost his mother. Elbert's plans are unsettled, but we hope for his return to St. John's.

Willard Raymond ('96-'98) of Manly Ia., called at the school recently. He has been with the Chicago and Rock Island Railway. He was an honor student in studies and conduct at St. John's. He was very much interested in looking over the changes and improvements made since his time and very entertaining in his reminiscences of "the old days" when he was here.

Donald Pattison (Pat, 1922), who has been attending the College of Emporia during the past year, writes from Winalow, Ariz., to say that he is working this summer for the Santa Fe Railway. He has a very good job and thinks he'll stay with it. He says he is glad he took Spanish and he is beginning to make use of it.

Harold Condon has been putting in his time selling insurance in Nebraska. He has made quite a success at it, and likes the job first rate. He is planning to go to Lake Forest this fall.

Royal Clanin called at the school recently. He is looking splendid and says he will surely be back at St. John's for the coming year.

The "old boys" records are a big drawing card for the school. In this connection Floyd Flanigan (1918) was instrumental in influencing Mrs. Cheshire of Topeka to send her boy to St. John's this fall, because of Floyd's successful record here. It is very gratifying indeed to the school authorities to meet with people who know our old boys and who appreciate what their training has meant to them.

Announcements have been received of the marriage of three "old" St. John's boys: of Ralph Muir, married July 25th to Miss Thelma Green, of Salina; Howard Hayden to Miss Nellie Bates of Denver, June 23rd; and of David Buchanan, married July 25th to Miss Anna Ruth Leonard of Kansas City. St. John's wishes them all happiness and prosperity.

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OUR NEW INSTRUCTORS

The Skirmisher extends a hearty welcome to the three new instructors who have joined the faculty for the coming year, Captains Donald J. McGrew, John F. Barker, and Harley Charboneau.

Captain McGrew will have charge of athletics and the science department. He is a graduate of the College of Chemistry of Lawrence University with Bachelor of Science degree, and served at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station during 1917-1918. He is a friend of Captain Davies.

Captain J. F. Barker, who is coming to take charge of the English department, is a graduate of the University of Virginia. He spent four years at Charlottesville and one year at the University of Idaho. His home is near Niles, Kans., where he has been spending the summer on his father's fruit ranch.

Captain Harley Charboneau, of Wichita, is coming as an instructor in the Junior School. He is from Southwestern College, Winfield, Kans. He has always been very active as a leader among smaller boys and his interest in ornithology and biology will make him an interesting companion for the junior cadets on their hikes and horseback rides into the country.

Major Perkins In Camp

On Thursday, August 2nd Major Roy W. Perkins left Salina with the Headquarters Battery of the 161st Field Artillery of the Kansas National Guard for encampment at Fort Riley. He is in charge of the Second Battalion. He remained in Camp until August 16th. Mrs. Perkins and Dorothy made two visits to the camp with Mrs. Holly and Mrs. Cravens, of Salina.

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"I want to congratulate and thank you and all the staff of St. John's for the great improvement I notice in * * *"

"We hope * * can be with you next year; we know the school is doing him a great good."

"—leased with the outcome of the training and schooling * * * has had at it I cannot express my pleasure on paper."

The Secretary, St. John's Military School,
Salina, Kansas.