

The Skirmisher

ST. JOHN'S MILITARY SCHOOL, SALINA, KANSAS

Vol. VI.

MAY 25, 1923

No. 8

Commencement Program

Saturday, May 26: Eighth Annual Field Meet between the Army and Navy Athletic Clubs. (Cadet Lieut. E. E. Hill, Capt. of Navy Club, Cadet Corp'l Edwin Grant, Capt. of the Army Club.)

Saturday Night: Commencement Dance.

Sunday Morning: Commencement Sermon and Presentation of Diplomas at Christ Cathedral.

Sunday Afternoon: Exhibition and Competitive Drills at 3 p. m. followed by Formal Guardmounting and Dress Parade with Presentation of Commissions and Warrants (Commissions issued by Governor Davis.)

Monday Morning: Annual Buglers' Contest and Presentation of Athletic Trophies, followed by the Alumni Luncheon at 12:15. At the Luncheon the scholastic cups, medals and other trophies will be presented.

FORTY-THREE QUALIFY ON THE RIFLE RANGE

The course on the rifle range was completed Tuesday afternoon and an unprecedented number of men qualified as either sharpshooters or marksmen.

The course consisted of fifty shots at a range of two hundred yards. The first ten shots were from a prone position and, as the bull's eye counts five, there was a possible fifty points from this position. The second circle counts four, the third circle counts three and the target as a whole outside of the circle counts two. If the bullet does not strike the target the shot counts nothing unless it strikes something and bounds through the target or throws something through the target. The ten high scores from the prone position were as follows: Hoskinson, 50; Condon, 49; McCracken, 49; Bowen, 49; Shaft, 49; Phillips, 48; Dalton, 48; Grant, 47; Heaton, 47; Bendell, 47.

The second five shots were fired from a sitting position and the possible score was twenty-five. This position is, next to the prone position, the easiest from which to shoot. The high scores from this position were: Jackson, 25; Bowen, 25; Condon, 24; Hoskinson, 24; Phillips, 24; Heaton, 24; Poindexter, 24; Spoelstra, 23; Wheeler C., 23; McCracken, 23; Grant, 23; Hopper, 23.

The next five shots were fired from the kneeling position. This position is more difficult for most men than the two preceding positions. The high scores follow: Hopper, 25; Bowen, 25; Condon, 24; McCracken, 24; Phillips, 24; Bland, 24; Hyde, 23; Hoskinson, 23; Dalton, 23; Jackson, 23; Manion, 23; Swimmer, 23; Heaton, 23; Poindexter, 23.

Bowen made 19 straight bull's eyes from the prone, sitting and kneeling positions, giving him 99 out of a possible 100.

The last of the slow fire was ten shots from the standing position. For most men this position is the most

CAMP PETS

Squirrels seem to be the main attraction in the way of pets at camp this year. No one thought of adopting the squirrel as a pet until Grant made his famous catch of two squirrels in a large cottonwood tree just behind the Company street.

The fad quickly spread and in less than twenty-four hours each tent had three or four squirrels housed in pockets, pillows, shirts and other handy places.

The baby squirrels make fine pets, but Hopper says that it doesn't pay to catch the old ones, and he is an authority, for he has the marks of their teeth on every one of his fingers.

We have several clever hunters in camp, although one or two mishaps befell a few of them. Shaffer C. had the misfortune to fall from the top of a tree, and Hopper dived into the river after a squirrel that had been shaken from its nest. The young squirrels are easily tamed, and Grant holds the record for having the tamest squirrel in camp. He has so trained

his pet that he can let it go at any time, go about his duties and return to find his squirrel back in his tent awaiting his return.

Other proud possessors of these pets are Shaffer C., Freeman, Wheeler, D., Noren, Oehlman, Lichty, Beasley, Hartman, Phillips, and Grayson, N.

The snake-charmers have taken little interest in their pets this year, only two snakes having been brought into camp.

Others, like Nelson, who favor neither squirrels nor snakes as pets, find much fun in hunting spiders.

SPRING FOOTBALL PRACTICE

The last two days at camp saw the football team out practicing signals, passes and kicking. Practice went along smoothly and with lots of pep but it did not last long as the regular team wanted other cadets to scrimmage against them and somehow that did not appeal to the smaller boys. With no competition interest quickly waned.

difficult as there is no support for the elbows. The high scores for this position are as follows (on a basis of fifty): Hoskinson, 46; Condon, 44; Lichty, 44; Aldous, 43; Wheeler, C, 42; Dalton, 41; Swimmer, 41; Bland, 41; Heaton, 40; Poindexter, 40; Wilson, 40.

The next firing was rapid fire. The men in the pit wave the ricochet flag then put the target up for thirty seconds. At the end of the thirty seconds the target goes down regardless of whether or not the marksman has shot his five shells. It is necessary then for the rifleman to get in five shots in thirty seconds. The first ten shots of rapid fire were fired from the prone position and the second ten from either sitting or kneeling at the option of the rifleman. The scores of the men who qualified are as follows:

Sharpshooters

	Slow Fire	Rapid Fire	Total
Condon	141	85	226
Hoskinson	143	82	225
Dalton	134	87	221
Shaft	131	87	218
Swimmer	129	87	216
Bowen	126	90	216
McCracken	128	85	213
Wheeler, C.	134	79	213
Phillips	132	80	212
Lichty	125	86	211
Hyde	121	90	211
Heaton	134	76	210
Grant	128	82	210
McWhinney	115	89	204
Aldous	124	79	203
Hill	116	86	202
Bland	120	82	202
Jackson	114	86	200
Poindexter	124	75	199
Manion	119	80	199
Shortt	121	77	198
Capt. Davies	112	86	198

Marksmen

Doran	115	79	194
Miller	119	75	194
Oehleman	113	80	193
Shaffer, C.	111	81	192
Winger	110	82	192
Wheeler, D.	109	83	192
Bendell	116	73	189
Spoelstra	101	87	188
Dixon	109	79	188
Olmstead	111	77	188
Hopper	119	68	187
Wilson	117	68	185
Paddock	105	81	186
Armantrout	99	86	185
Hartman	108	72	180

Thompson	113	67	180
Johnston	111	68	179
Stiles	113	62	175
Linger	93	82	175

This is a remarkable record as last year only four men qualified. The shooting this year was good all the way through. The men were careful to follow the directions given by Major Weir and by so doing made exceptionally fine scores.

MORE RIFLE SCORES

The scores of the cadets who did not qualify are as follows:

	Score	Possible
Hutto	169	250
Edwards	172	250
Freeman	162	250
Zellweger	162	250
Bates	16	25
Barnett	20	25
Beasley	23	25
Bergen	62	125
Crooks	17	25
Foster	39	50
Furhman	14	25
Ganssle	16	25
Grayson	23	25
Grayson N.	21	50
Harmon	2	25
McMurtrie	18	25
Miles	16	25
Moe	20	25
Noren	21	25
Oakley	3	25
Pitzer	25	25
Pratt	4	25
Riblett	14	25
Ripley C.	16	25
Ripley, E.	15	25
Sawyer, A.	32	50
Sawyer, M.	25	50
Sawyer, S.	25	50
Shirk	4	25
Wright	21	25

The smaller boys shot from the prone position only and used supports for the front ends of their rifles. They did very well. Every man hit the target at least once and the smallest cadet made sixteen out of a possible twenty-five.

Father, (to superintendent): "What branch do you consider the most profitable for my boy?"

Superintendent: "I can hardly say, but I think a good willow switch or a stout Hickory rod would be as good as any."

Condon: "What is the matter with you?"

Bowen: "I swallowed a dime; do you notice any change in me?"

MRS. PERKINS ENTERTAINS

Mrs. Perkins entertained her bridge club on Wednesday afternoon. There were four tables of bridge and refreshments of southern style baked ham, stuffed eggs, tomato salad, candied apples, parkerhouse rolls, watermelon preserves, coffee and candy were served. Those present were: Mrs. Ganssle, Mrs. Wier, Mrs. Beve-ridge, Mrs. Davies, Mrs. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Holly, Mrs. Hudgins, Mrs. Cravens, Mrs. Norton, Mrs. Mays, Mrs. Patterson, Mrs. Applebaugh, Mrs. Theisner, Mrs. Rathbun, Mrs. Johnson, and Mrs. Cheney. The party was nearly broken up when the cadets came in from camp and loosed a couple of squirrels among the guests.

Customer: "Waiter, is this apple or rhubarb pie?"

Waiter: "Can't you tell?"

Customer: "No, I can't."

Waiter: "Then what difference does it make?"

Lip: "You must never go in bathing after a hearty meal."

Dip: "Why?"

Lip: "You won't find it there."

Mac: "Was she shy when you asked her age?"

Wing: "Yes, I imagine about ten years."

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CAMP VISITORS

Several prominent Salina men have visited St. John's camp for the purpose of shooting on the range. Mr. Ralph Hiller has been out twice with his 1903 Springfield and made some good scores. Mr. Hiller has a picked gun—one of the guns picked by the National Rifle Association, and he has it fitted with a gold front sight to prevent the glare of the sun from spoiling his aim.

Mr. J. W. (Buster) Brown, the Director of the Shrine, came out and practiced shooting as did Mr. Alex Berg, the Potentate of the Shrine. Mr. Berg was practising particularly for the Buffalo shoot to be held at Hays, Kansas, at the Shrine Ceremonial. The Buffalo which is to be shot came through Salina a few days ago on a truck and is said to be an exceptionally fine animal. The buffalo is to be barbecued for a big feast.

Mrs. Ganssle and Joyce have been out to camp nearly every day as have also been Mrs. Weir, Mrs. Perkins, Dorothy Perkins, Mrs. Allen and Mary Allen. They seem to enjoy camp just as much as the boys do. Joyce has been on the swing several times, clinging to Colonel Ganssle's neck. Dorothy Perkins has become proficient enough to swing all alone without help in landing. Mrs. Davies F. C. Davies Junior, and Mrs. Beveridge, have also been out several times. Mrs. Beveridge is from Lake Mills, Wisconsin, and expects to send her son, Tom, down here next year.

Dr. and Mrs. Clark, Lieutenant Dyer of Battery A, Mr. Amos Bailey and his mother, Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. Ripley, Jeanette Ripley, Miss Spradley, Miss Mary Jean Bailey, and Mr. Armantrout, have made calls on the cadets at their camp.

PHI DELTA SIGMA INITIATES

The following cadets were initiated into the Phi Delta Sigma Fraternity on Sunday, May 13: Chenoweth, Heaton, Wheeler, C., Lichty, Dixon, Miller Manion, and Bowen. The ceremonies took place on the hills behind the target pit, and after the rough initiation a fire was built in a hollow, and steak feed was enjoyed by the old and new members.

Flim: "That fellow who takes tickets at the Palace is a good poker player."

Flam: "How's that?"

Flim: "He always opens up for a pair."

SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADE
FINAL EXAMINATIONS

The members of the seventh and eighth grades who have been doing passing work to date came in to town from camp to take the examinations given by the county officials. This examination counts fifty per cent in the final averages and only those cadets who were deemed by their instructors capable of obtaining high enough grades to earn promotions were sent in. The examinations were given in the county court house on the eleventh and twelfth of May and were pronounced "easy" by those who took them. Crooks, Beasley, Noren and Pratt took the seventh grade examination, and Bates Jackson, Jones, Riblett, Harmon, and Oakley took the examination for eighth graders. As the results of the examinations are not yet available it is impossible to say just how "easy" they were. It may be that some did not know just how hard they really were. However with the thorough preparations made by Captains Bailey and Hass the cadets should be able to pass any ordinary examination.

CAMP BREAKS UP

On Wednesday morning bedding and other equipment was placed outside for inspection. After inspection the order was given to replace the straw from the ticks on the straw stack and to pile up the ticks and prepare to break camp. Those whose uniforms had become soiled or wet had clean clothes brought out from the laundry, shoes and puttees were shined, and the camp was made ready to move. During the morning the truck carried cots, spare provisions, etc in to school and late in the morning the bedding rolls were made up and sent in. At noon the last meal at camp was eaten, mess kits were given the final cleaning, and the cooking apparatus was packed up. About two o'clock the battalion was formed and the march to town was begun. After filing across the bridge the column was again formed and the march was resumed back to school. Tents were left up to become thoroughly dry after the two days of damp weather before being packed up and stored. The cadets seemed glad to get back to shower baths, floors and beds though everyone was sorry to leave the scene of a week of solid enjoyment.

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Address: The Editor of
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Salina, Kansas.

The Skirmisher

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Mrs. Key was visiting some friends and left the following note for her nearest neighbor: "Dear Mrs. Garrison, would you please put out a little food for the cat I have been feeding this winter? It will eat almost anything, but do not put yourself out."

OUR COOK "BILL"

We all eat three times a day, but seldom appreciate the invaluable services of a good cook. When it comes to cooking "Bill" is the one to look for. His cooking is nothing short of marvelous, considering the apparatus that he has in camp. This cooking equipment this year consists of an open fire and an army field oven.

His roast meats are wonderful, and if anyone ever leaves any over, it will be a rainy day indeed.

In the morning when he has pancakes, the line is a never-ending procession of howling cadets crying for more pancakes and yet more. It is a good thing that he is so good-natured and makes so many; otherwise he might be subject to many bribes.

This is his second year at St. John's and every cadet who is returning next year earnestly hopes that he will be our cook at the next encampment.

Yardmaster: That engineer has saved more babies' lives than any man on this road.

Sue Burb: He must be a skillful driver.

Yardmaster: Not exactly. He runs the milk train.—Life.

Foreman: 'Ere, do you know 'Opkins carries twice as much as you at a time?

Workman: Yus. I've told 'im about it, but 'e WILL do it.

—Windsor.

THE TENNIS TOURNAMENT

St. John's recently entered a tennis tournament held under the auspices of the Central Kansas High School League. The tournament was played at Salina and the following schools were participants: Salina High, Abilene, McPherson, Junction City, Chapman, Ellsworth and St. John's. Riblett and Doran represented the school in both the doubles and singles.

In the singles Riblett was eliminated early, while Doran held his court until the semi-finals, in which he was defeated by McPherson, the scores being 6-3 and 6-4.

The School team drew a bye in the first round, and in the second round succeeded in beating Junction City 6-1 and 6-2. This placed them in the finals against Salina. They gave good account of themselves in the early part of the first set, taking the first four games in rapid succession and without much effort. However, the Salina team played a more consistent game and finally won out in both sets, making them champions of the League.

The two cadets received silver medals for winning second place in the Tournament.

ANATOMICAL QUERIES

Where can a man buy a cap for his knee,

Or a key to the lock of his hair,
Can his eyes be called academy,
Because they are pupils there?
In the crown of his head what gems are found?

Who travels the bridge of his nose?
Can he use, when shingling the roof of his mouth,

The nails of the end of his toes?
Can the crook of his elbow be sent to jail?

If so, what did he do?
How does he sharpen his shoulder blades?

I'll be hanged if I know, do you?
Can he sit in the shade of the palms of his hands?

Or beat on the drums of his ears?
Does the calf of his leg eat the corn of his toes?

Then why not grow corn on his ear?

Jones: You said you could lick me.

Smith: I did. Shall I prove it?

Jones: No. I'm just gathering statistics.

"Does peroxide bleach ivory?"

"Well, it bleaches hair and that is next to ivory."

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CAPTAIN HASS MUSSES UP THE RIVER

With much sorrow a large part of the cadet corps saw Captain Hass fall off the big swing into the river on Sunday. Cap. tried to swing four times and then land. He got his feet on the bank but he could not stay there so he had to make a hurried grab at the rope and go out again. In his hurry he caught the rope at the end just above the knot and, as the knot comes within a foot of the water, he went in at the bottom of the arc. As he climbed up the bank one of the helping hands helped the wrong way and in he went again. As the avowed purpose of the cadets is to get the instructors wet their was no sleep lost in mourning the accident.

GUESTS AT SUNDAY DINNER

Most of the faculty and their families were out for Sunday dinner on the thirteenth—Mother's Day. Several of the boys mothers called also. Major Perkins arranged a delicious dinner and "Bill" cooked it to perfection. The following good things were on the menu: Roast chicken with gravy, mashed potatoes, creamed peas, bread and butter, pickled beets, apple pie and coffee—not demi-tasse but in big tin cups holding a pint each. Not bad for a camp dinner. We all hand it to Major Perkins for designing meals. His years in the army with every rank from private, bugler, cook and baker, to major, are now standing us in good stead. He knows what boys and men like. It was a novel experience for some of the guests to eat from mess kits with iron "silverware" and tin cups but they all pronounced the meal "wonderfully good" and said it tasted much better for being eaten out-of-doors.

THE POPULAR MAN

Who is the most popular man in camp? That's easy! Captain Barker easily takes the prize, for no one is more eagerly anticipated than the man who brings candy to camp. Every day Capt. Barker makes trips from town to bring candy bars, peanuts, etc. to hungry cadets. The cadets see him coming and are waiting when he arrives and it is seldom that there is enough candy to supply the demand. Though the primary object of the camp is target practice, it is a safe venture to say that most cadets would yell "Captin Barker" if someone asked whom they wanted to see.

CROW'S DOG

On Tuesday, May 15 another cadet dog was added to the pet squad of the student body when Jesse Crow came marching proudly into camp carrying a young coon dog. His new pet is a pedigree dog, two and a half months old, and was given to him by Mr. Harmon, who lives just across the river from camp. Unfortunately, however, the dog has a badly injured back, due to its having been tangled up in its mother's chain a month ago. But this does not lessen Crow's interest in his pet; on the other hand, he is most solicitous for its comfort and gives it every attention. He is going to take it to school, where he will keep it until Qommencement. Then he plans to take it home and place it under the care of his uncle, Dr. A. A. Herman, who is an expert veterinarian. He hopes that an operation will be effective in restoring his pet to normalcy.

THE POLE VAULT

(At a Saturday Night Indoor Track Meet)

When all the dashes have been run,
The shot-put and the hurdles done,
What keeps me there till after one?
The pole vault.

What makes me miss the last express?

What sends the paper late to press,
And causes all of us distress?
The pole vault.

When wise men all have hit the hay,
What fiend's invention makes me stay
And desecrate the Sabbath day?

The pole vault.

When fans have hastened home because

They fear their yawns will break their jaws,

Who violates the closing laws?

The pole vault.

Please can it Mister A. A. U.,
Or else provide a bed for two,
So we poor scribes can slumber thru
The pole vault.

—The Chicago Tribune.

Wife: "I went to a fortune teller today and she prophesied that I would soon have a new gown."

Hub: "There, you see it's just as I always told you—these fortune tellers never tell the truth."

—Boston Transcript.

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THE ASTROLOGER

The last seance with the Mystic Astrologer was held out at camp, and glimpses into the lives of the following cadets were obtained:

NELSON—Director of the famous Nelson Saxophone Sextette. This popular combination is familiarly known as the "Rosy Six." Their repertoire knows no bounds, and they are the acknowledged professional wind-jammers of the middle west. See current issues of the Billboard for further information and bookings of this unique organization.

NOREN—Has been for five years assistant janitor of the new Bank building in Salina, Kans., where he has had ample opportunity to observe and become familiar with the intricate manipulation of the elevator. As a reward for the keen interest he has shown in trying to master this branch of his profession, he was recently promoted to the rank of Chief Elevator-Boy. Notwithstanding the fact that in this new capacity he holds in his hands the lives of five or six people every day, he is in no way conceited, nor is he above nodding to his old school-fellows.

OAKLEY—Has traveled far and wide. At present Grand and Supreme Field-Marshal and General in Chief of Army of Bessarabia. He owes his phenomenal success to his early training on the St. John's Rifle Range, where his staggering scores with the rifle were the despair of the cadets, especially the target-pit detail.

PADDOCK—On the road for the famous Dr. Yankem's celebrated corn-extractor. He has a wonderful product. He says it will not only remove corns instantly, but claims that it serves a number of other useful household purposes. For example, it will soften hard water, prevent milk from souring, make chickens lay, and as a general household remedy it stands without a par.

PHILLIPS—Advertising Manager for the Hartman-Phillips Squirrel Catchers, Incorporated. Their ranch on the upper reaches of the Smoky River presents a lively aspect and their foremen include some of the foremost tree-climbers of the country. For many years they had an upward climb, but now they are on their feet and are under contract to the leading hotels of the nation.

POINDEXTER—Professor of Latin at Princeton University. A great



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lover of the outdoors and during vacations he visits his old pals on the Phillips-Hartman Squirrel Ranch. He is a great favorite with the squirrels.

PITZER—Playing second saxophone in the "Rosy Six" saxophone sextette. Director Nelson tells us he is a most valuable musician—almost as good as the director himself. Pitzer has refused several offers from the Six Brown Brothers and other famous musical organizations, steadily maintaining his intention to stick with Director Nelson until the "Rosy Six" has become the greatest saxophone sextette in the world.

PRATT—At the head of a large laundry and dry cleaning establishment. His slogan is "cleanliness". Pratt tells us he has striven for universal cleanliness ever since he was a small boy. At school he often was so engrossed in cleaning up his room and in seeing that others were cleaned up that he did not have time to give his own face its daily polish. Pratt is a living example of a man with high ideals in the business he likes doing his utmost to clean up the human race.

PRICE H.—King of Icelandovia in the arctic circle where the nights are six months long. King Byers I. has long been known for his sleeping propensities—even as a school boy he was a candidate for the sleepers medal for exceptional ability in his chosen sport. Strangely enough the monarch does not sleep during the six months of night but entertains lavishly with dinners, dances and other amusements during the whole night. It is only at the break of dawn that the king presses the button which drops him into his six-foot-deep feather bed for a hard-earned six months of sleep. Needless to say it goes hard with the reckless fellow who dares to disturb the weary King for

anything less than an invasion and the headsman is, next to the Prime Minister, the highest salaried man in the empire.

PRICE J.—Recently banished from Icelandovia for blowing first call in the middle of the night. The king was so agitated by the sound of the bugle that he sent a warship to carry Price J. to the anarctic regions where he was left in sole possession of a large iceberg. After many hardships the lone mariner navigated his unweildly iceberg to the shores of Hawaii by using his shirt for a sail. Price now bids fair to become the richest man in the islands through the sale of his vast berg of ice.

RICE—Chief speaker for the "League for the abolition of profanity." He loves his work and hopes, with the cooperation of the better class of citizens to completely eliminate profanity within the next twenty-five years.

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THE FISH COME OUT OF HIDING

The second day of camp saw a change in the luck of the camp fishermen. Several of the fellows who set their lines at night found good-sized catfish on them in the morning and during the day several more fish found that the tempting worms were too good to be true. Winger had a pair of beauties, one of which measured twenty inches in length. The smaller was about fifteen inches long. As there were not enough fish to cook for the camp Winger sent his in to school where they were cooked and eaten. Condon caught three catfish one of which was even larger than that caught by Winger. Hyde, McCracken and several others had good luck and caught good-sized catfish, though none have gotten fish large enough to take the championship away from Condon.

The river winds around so as to bound the camp on two sides so there is lots of river to fish in that is not too far from camp. There are two varieties of fish available, the channel or blue catfish and the mud cat. Both varieties are excellent eating.

There is a peculiar fascination in fishing. Even the laziest get the fever and trudge out night after night to set lines. Many get no fish but are they discouraged? Not a bit! The fun seems to be in setting the lines and hoping for fish rather than the actual catching. Not a night passes without some cadets getting permission to go out and set lines or to stay out late and fish and in the morning there is a rush for the lines. The rifle pit detail is sure to have at least one anxious fisherman who crabs all morning about not being able to go to see his lines.

Probably the value of the fishing tackle purchased far exceeds the value of the fish caught but who can estimate the value of the out-door air and the hours spent tramping through the woods and along the river. Even though the camp as a whole never has a fish supper, the value of the fishing in health and manly sportsmanship will have become ours to keep.

SOME SENTRY

Barnett—on guard: "Halt! who's there?"

Unknown: "Cadet Furhman."

Sentry: "Advance to be recognized." "Oh! Hello Furhman."

Half: "What's all the noise about?"

Wit: "I just broke a dollar bill."

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