

The Skirmisher

ST. JOHN'S MILITARY SCHOOL, SALINA, KANSAS

Vol. VII.

MAY 10, 1924

No. 6

A SHAM BATTLE FOR COMMENCEMENT.

Recently Major Perkins consumed a two hour drill period to demonstrate the danger of blank shells at close range and to outline the plans for a sham battle to be given as part of the Commencement exercises. Although no one would think so, these blank shells are very dangerous as was shown by experiment. The wax wad from the shell does not travel in a straight line, but either goes to the right or left and usually carries for a distance of perhaps twenty feet. The field pieces are not as dangerous as the small guns as the wad doesn't carry far and the concussion reminds one of his extreme closeness to the piece.

The general plan for the battle is to have three platoons attacking one platoon in a fortified position supported by field pieces. The three attacking platoons will advance over three hundred yards of land partly covered with trees and shrubs. To make the battle appear more realistic snipers will be posted and camouflaged also smoke bombs and hand grenades will be used. Each platoon has been instructed in the building about barbed wire entanglements and they are expected to construct entanglements for the battle. Side pieces for the officers and the field pieces will be supplied by the Armory and the rifles by the school.

It is the intention of the Commandant to rehearse the battle three or four times so the cadets will become familiar with the procedure of the battle and the mechanism of the rifles. The cadets are interested very much and are doing their best so that spectators at Commencement will be both pleased and interested in this part of the entertainment.

Razz: I thought you promised me that you wouldn't smoke any more.

Berry: I did.

Razz: But you are smoking as much as ever.

Berry: Well, that isn't any more, is it?

—Ranger.

CRACK SQUAD TAKES TOPEKA BY STORM.

On Wednesday, April ninth the Crack Squad went to Topeka to give its drill on which it has worked so hard since Christmas. The following are the cadets who went: Capt. Cadet Bland; Lieut., Cadet Jackson; 1st Sergt., Cadet Hutto; members Cadets, Doran, Jamison, Johnston, Fisher, Jeannin, Cronin, Harris, Manion, Shaft, Dickinson, Flanders, Schafer K., Wilson, and Herbert Golike as mascot. The squad consists of only twelve men, but the substitutes were allowed to go since they had worked as hard as the others.

Topeka was the seat for the annual Rotarian Convention this year and towns from all over Kansas and even a few from Oklahoma were represented.

The city was beautifully decorated and Topeka's Rotary Club did everything possible to make it a success. They went so far as to furnish visiting Rotarians with cars to ride in, and cars were seen all over the city with the words "hop in" on them.

The drill was given Thursday evening along with a series of other stunts put on by the different towns and cities. There was not a mistake made in the whole drill, notwithstanding the fact that the auditorium was crowded with Rotarians. It was received with hearty applause which made the cadets feel good indeed. Wesleyan College was represented by its sextet and Marymount by its musicians. Salina's stunt was among the best, if not the best.

Then followed a dance in which some of "Saint John's sheiks" took part. That same evening Major Perkins was successful in securing an appointment for the following day to drill in front of the Capitol before the Governor and his staff, but it so happened that the Governor was called out of town, and the squad drilled before the Lieutenant Governor and the Governor's star. This drill was also a success and the governor's representative gave them his hearty ap-

plause in a short speech. He then invited the squad to go through the capitol building and they accepted.

The guide showed them the military equipment which was stored in the basement and even went to the trouble to shoot a new style rifle in order to give them an idea how it operated and what damage it could do. A good deal of knowledge was gained concerning the new implements of war which the government is inventing.

Friday afternoon was spent in going through the large museum which was found to be very interesting.

Those cadets who did not go to the dance Friday night spent their time in preparing to leave the following morning, since this was the last day of the convention.

They returned in the same cars in which they went, some arriving at Salina during the morning and some during the late afternoon. All agreed they had had a fine vacation and would buckle in and work hard until the finish of school.

CADETS GIVE ENTERTAINMENT FOR OLD SOLDIERS.

On Monday, April seventh the Drum and Bugle Corps and the Crack Squad were invited by the G. A. R. to give a program at their annual meeting which was held at the Memorial Hall. Luncheon was served by the ladies of the G. A. R. after which the cadets entertained the old soldiers, who seemed especially pleased to hear again the various bugle calls. The cadets who took part were Buglers, Cadets Utterback and Thompson; Drummers, Sergt. Edwards and Cadet Crooks; (The Crack Squad) Cadet Bland (captain), Corporals Manion, Harris and Jackson and Cadets Hutto, Doran, Schafer K., Jamison, Wilson, Johnston, Flanders, Fisher and Jeannin.

Marie—I hear Jack doesn't drink any more.

Georges—He couldn't.

—Goblin.

THE MAN WITH THE MANY FACES.

My story starts out in the poorly classed district of London. A place in which sea rats, drunkards and others of the scum of the earth might hide or drink their fill; a place of many amusements. One could easily forget his past in such a place as this; a place of many leering faces with lost souls or men with shaking hands who have the craving for dope; men who once might have been good captains of the ships, or prominent citizens.

Seated in a corner in the far end of the room was a man of about thirty years of age, a man with a face that would be hard to read. To look at him you would think twice before you tackled him. His eyes were as cold as death itself; he seemed apart from the drunken lot, as though he were superior to all that he came in contact with. Many would give almost anything to know what was going on behind that mask, just for a glimpse of that soul which was hidden so well, if the man had one, as many were inclined to doubt. A man entered the room and looked around. Instantly the man at the corner table changed to a human beast in the form of a drunkard.

He was brutal to all that came within his reach. The man at the door crossed the room to the bar and ordered a drink. When he had set down his glass after emptying it, he looked for the drunken brute, but to his surprise he had completely disappeared. But standing beside him was a young apache. He asked him if he had seen where the drunken sailor had gone. The youth made his reply in French. He had seen him go out through the door while he was drinking. So saying he strolled away smoking his cigarette as though he were at peace with the world and it with him. The visitor goes out of the door in pursuit of the sailor. The young apache turns then into the deathlike eyes and goes to his table, to the great mirth of a few that knew his ability to change without any one seeing him or knowing how he did it.

The man with the many faces is hunted the world over. Scotland Yard expects some day to catch him as they almost did on the occasion just described.

—Cronin.

Is there anything sadder than the child who speaks of a merry-go-round as a carousal?"

—Widow.

CONFIRMATION AT THE CATHEDRAL

Palm Sunday evening, Bishop Mize made his annual visitation at the Cathedral to administer the Rite of Confirmation. A large congregation was present which included the cadets from Saint John's School. This was the first occasion on which the cadets had attended a Cathedral service in the evening in several years. Dean Hoag presented a large class for Confirmation and the Bishop invoked the spiritual gifts from the Choir steps instead of at the Altar rail as is often customary. The cadets were represented among the Confirmands. Again we were impressed with the fact that numbers do not add, but on the other hand detract from the solemnity and beauty of the act and ritual.

Dr. McKnight.

THOSE AGONIZED MOANS.

Now that graduation is drawing near, moaning and groaning sounds are heard in all senior classes.

"Just think, only five more weeks till we graduate."

"Where will the old bunch be next year?"

"Oh, I feel so funny when I get to thinking—"

"That old gang of mine," rendered in the most agonized tones, lends its charm to the gloomy atmosphere.

To the lower classmen these words seem silly and mean nothing but there will come a time when they, too, will know the real meaning of graduation.

—Patriot.

JUST A LITTLE GEOGRAPHY

How much did Philadelphia Pa?

How much does Columbus O?

How many eggs did New Orleans La?

What grass did Joplin Mo?

We call Minneapolis Minn;

Why not Annapolis Ann?

If you can't tell the reason why,

I'll bet Topeka Kan.

—Buzz Saw.

Rushing Business.

"Well, Bloom," a physician asked a young colleague who was just starting in, "how's your practice?"

"In the mornings, practically no one comes," was the reply, "and in the afternoons the rush falls off a bit."

—Froth.

"Is your chauffeur economical?"

"Very; he never runs the car on more than two wheels or three cylinders.

—Pheonix.

DO YOU EXERCISE YOUR JAWS?

The gum chewing student

And the cud chewing cow

Are somewhat alike

Yet different some how.

What difference? Oh, yes,

I see it now

It's the thoughtful look

On the face of the cow!

Does this verse apply to you as you go through the halls in school? Do you look as if you were engaged in a jaw moving contest? And then when it's chewing age is over, where do you park it? Desks or chairs in the school or on the hall floors? Surely it's not necessary to say more.

—Ex.

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MRS. HEATON ENTERTAINS BASKET BALL TEAM.

Mrs. Heaton, Hal's mother, entertained the basket ball team and their lady friends in Major Perkins' quarters Friday evening, April the twenty-fifth. Each one was presented with a paper cap of a very attractive design in orange and black colors with long streamers. Major Davies gave a few selections on his banjo which were enquired very enthusiastically. Colonel Ganssle introduced a game, "Play on Names" in which Mrs. Heaton had prepared a chirade on the name of each guest. The prizes were won by Captain McGrew and Miss Helen Stanford. A basket ball game was played which Captain Freeman and Miss Herzig won.

Then the party adjourned to Major Davies quarters where refreshments were served, that consisted of a slice of brick ice cream with chocolate ice cream in the form of a basket ball in the center, with individual cakes in the shape of a basket ball and date bars, candy, nuts and coffee.

Coach McGrew presented sweaters to the team consisting of Lieut. D. Wheeler, Lieut. C. Wheeler, Sergt. Heaton, Corp. Harris, Corp. Swimmer, (Captain Elect), and Cadet Utterback. The sweaters are a white jersey knit with S. J. M. S. in a black circular background which makes a very attractive sweater.

Colonel Ganssle and Major Perkins entertained with a few of their favorite tricks.

All who attended enjoyed a very delightful evening. The members of the team were especially pleased with their fine trophies which they had worked so hard to get.

Those who attended were:

Colonel Ganssle
Major and Mrs. Perkins
Major and Mrs. Davies
Captain McGrew and Miss Helen Stanford
Captain Barker and Miss Juliet Buell
Captain Freeman and Miss Beatrice Stephens
Lieut. D. Wheeler and Miss Martha Triplet
Lieut. C. Wheeler and Miss Eleanor Herzig
Sergt. McCracken and Miss Dorothy Lipe
Sergt. Heaton and Miss Virginia White
Corp. Harris and Miss Martha Eberhardt
Cadet Hartman and Miss Helen



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For years and years he has been rustling around to get things together. Never once has he failed to do the right thing by you. He thinks you are the greatest boy on earth, bar none; even though you plaster your hair back, wear smart clothes, smoke cigarettes, and fail to bring home a cent. He is the man who won the love and life partnership of the greatest woman on earth, your mother.

He is "some man" and not the "old man." If you win as good a wife as he did you will have to go some.

—Exchange.

A LETTER OF CONGRATULATION

Crack Squad:

Please accept my congratulation for the excellent showing made by Saint John's Military Drill team at the Topeka Rotary Convention.

The individual members drilled as one man and to each member of the team is due the credit for the splendid showing of the Crack Squad organization.

Comments from all sources are highly complimentary, and as President of the Salina Rotary Club, I want to express my appreciation for the Crack Squad, and to thank it for participating in our activities in a way to reflect great credit to the School, the City of Salina, and the Salina Rotary Club.

Frank L. Eberhardt, President.

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Published Monthly by the Cadets of
St. John's Military School,
Salina, Kansas.

Subscription Rate.....\$1.00 per year

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THE CAMPUS.

The recent discovery by "Prof. A. Gump" Shaffer that "spring has come" is accompanied by the general improvement of the campus which is one of the major activities among the cadets. The agriculture class of the lower forms planted a garden of some of the earlier products and is doing very well. There has also been a very consistent war on dandelions carried on by various cadets. The boys have a great pride in the lawn before the barracks and have established a very severe penalty for walking on it.

EASTER.

Although there was no Easter vacation at Saint John's, passes were granted to boys who were up in their work and who had permission to go home. A special holiday was granted Saturday to those who remained so that back work could be made up and squad worked off. On Easter morning at breakfast hard boiled eggs were served and an egg breaking contest ensued. The contest was carried on by a process of elimination as follows:
Shirk—champion of Col. Ganssle's table.

Overton—champion of Mr. Barker's table.

Hartman—champion of Maj. Davies' table.

Miss Dorothy Perkins—champion of Maj. Perkins' table.

Capt. Charboneau — champion of Capt. McWhinney's table.

Thompson—champion of Dr. McKnight's table.

Heaton—champion of Capt. McGrew's table.

Shirk won from Overton, Capt. Charboneau from Miss Dorothy, Capt. Charboneau from Thompson, Capt. Charboneau from Shirk, Hartman

from Capt. Charboneau, Heaton from Hartman. Heaton champion egg.

Incidentally Newton at Capt. McWhinney's table won the egg eating contest by eating seventeen eggs.

CHANGE OF STUDY HALL.

Study hall now begins a half hour later than during the winter months. During the winter months study hall took up at seven o'clock and was dismissed at eight forty-five. Now it begins at seven thirty or half an hour later, and is dismissed at nine fifteen. This gives the cadets an extra half hour to be outside. The younger cadets can now have a half hour longer to play marbles and fly kites while the older boys have various other ways of recreation. Since the starting of the horse-shoe tournament the boys have been spending all their spare time practicing up for the finals. In both Junior and Senior schools a silver loving cup will be awarded the winner. The plan was adopted by the cadets and now very few remain inside the building after supper. The change in study hall will continue through till the end of school.

CAPT. McWHINNEY BUYS MOTOR-CYCLE FOR EXPERIMENTAL PURPOSE.

Captain L. A. McWhinney is now the proud owner of a motorless motorcycle which he recently purchased.

At the present date he is using a two-cylinder Walker for a motor, but some afternoon in the near future he is planning to transfer the Diesel motor used in his last racing machine to this chassis while he is resting.

He has been also experimenting for some time on a new type of tail light for this machine or any type vehicle. The purpose is to invent one which will automatically turn on when it gets dark and not use any electricity. The latest device is a large piece of cheese in a reflector. This attracts a great many lightning bugs which light on the cheese and make a bright light. The only trouble is that cheese kills the bugs after the first bite. However, he is going to petrify some of the bugs with their lights turned on so that he may use them in the winter.

We are all following these experiments with the utmost interest and wish Mac the best of luck in them.

P.S. I forgot to mention that this powerful motorcycle is now camouflaged as a bicycle.

—C. N. "Gump."

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ONE DARK NIGHT.

It was a short while after mid-night in an old castle, the rooms of which had come to be used as class rooms for a certain group of scholars. Only the ground floor was inhabited, except for my room. I lived apart from all the rest,—up on the third floor. The halls were dark, and everything was silent, even the old hall clock failed to run.

I was reading stories of ghosts and uncanny murders. My whole mind was absorbed in the most dreadful I had ever read, when a sharp rap from somewhere distracted my attention, making me sink back into the embrace of my chair. No other sound could be heard. It was so still that I imagined I could have heard each step of a mouse, had one run across the floor. I had almost gathered myself ready for reading again when I detected a peculiar order in the air,—very peculiar; I had never smelled anything even similar to it. The first thought was that there might be a fire somewhere which I should investigate. Then I connected the two incidents already related and decided that something, maybe a stray cat, had upset some chemicals in the laboratory, which was only a few doors down the hall. To show myself that my emotion could not be stirred by a mere story, I determined to walk boldly into it to the electric switch where I could turn on the lights.

I started, but when I opened the door into that room I stopped and could not move. The gas I had smelled was terrible, it set ones nerves all on edge. And to make it worse, there before me was a great white body barely discernible. It could not be human for it was an immense thing, not in height but in breadth. If ever any one felt terrorized, I did, when that thing moved. It was getting smaller. Then it must be going away. No! It is closer. It is crouching to spring upon me. A bony hand slapped me in the face, toppled me, and the whole thing went over. As the tails to it went over me I recognized the touch of cloth. My fear turned to anger at having been the butt of some joke that was being played, and I got up to run after the fleeing faker. It turned a corner to go down the stairs. When I reached there I stopped as frozen as before. The thing was standing on the banister of a spiral stair ready to dive into the open space.

It leaned and dove head downward.

Visions of everything that was happening to that thing were passing thru my mind as fast as thought can be made. I knew that there was nothing to stop it but the stone pavement on the ground. There was a scream, and then it seemed ages until the final "slump", echoed to my ears. A little groan, and again everything was silent.

I stood there imagining to the limit of my intellect the most terrible things until I could no longer bear the stillness. I dared to move and then to walk slowly down the stairs to the switch board governing the lights of the lower halls. Lights strengthened my nerves, so that I stepped quite unafraid to the banister to peer over at—My God! My own brother. His lifeless form lay in a pile of sheets which he had accidentally carried along. He was a sleep walker.

TENNIS.

Tennis seemed to have taken more interest than ever this year as the Central Kansas League is about to be played. The court is in better condition now than it ever has been and there are more fellows coming out. For the first time in Salina, the D. & M. Sporting Goods Store is offering a city championship meet for schools of Salina. The following schools are represented: Salina High, Sacred Heart, Saint John's. As many could have entered as possible. Saint John's had five boys in this meet. Corps. Harris, and Riblett now playing for the fourth round. Schafer K. and Sergt. Grant being eliminated. Cadet Doran is in the second round. Coach McGrew announced his lineup for the District Meet, May 10th on the Kansas Wesleyan courts. There are Corp. Harris' singles. Corp. Riblett and Cadet Doran, doubles. Corp. Riblett and Cadet Doran being runners up in last year's meet. They have one advantage over last year. Ragle and Ruggles of Salina High, last year's champions, are not playing this year. Ragle playing singles instead of doubles. The D. & M. are offering a large silver loving cup for the winner and a large gold medal for the runners up.

About May 15 is the championship for the city. Saint John's should rank high this year in tennis in both meets.

On mules we find two legs behind,
And two we find before,
We stand behind before we find
What the two behind be for.

—Ex.

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WRECKAGE WEEK

When times grow dull and lack of excitement causes the faculty and students of Saint John's to seek a new field of adventure, it is to be hoped that they will find a means of amusement other than the destruction of motor vehicles.

As Captain McGrew stepped into the Colonel's Marmon the consciousness of piloting so powerful a mechanism quite unbalanced his sense of proportion, he let in the clutch and with a roar the car plunged around the east corner of Vail Hall, all but killing the Colonel's goose in its mad rush for the garage door. The doorway being rather narrow and Captain McGrew's underestimating the width of his motor, he quietly removed a small portion of the door. Although Captain McGrew likes a story as well as anyone he kept this incident to himself.

However Captain John was less fortunate in quietly shelving his initiation into the circle of motor destroyers. With his mind deeply ingrossed in the subject, "Shall the people of the United States nominate the President and Vice President by popular vote?" He started for town.

Growing wroth at his own arguments an unreasonable desire to crush something swept over him, seeing an inoffensive truck setting by the curb he made a savage plunge at it with his powerful Ford. Captain John drew a check for \$15.00.

In an endeavor to emulate the example of his instructors, Captain McWhinney on the day following, took the initial steps to become a full fledged member of the Right of Way Specialists. He climbed into the seat of the School truck with a look of dignity and proceeded to steer from the curb into the heavy traffic of Walnut street. There was a crash, a shivering of spokes a rush of curb-lizzards. Captain McWhinney threw a glance over his shoulder in time to see a Ford touring car take a nose dive into a hitching post.

Whether the driver of the Ford was taking revenge on a Saint John's car or whether he had failed to recognize the military promptness of the Captain's take-off, we cannot say. The fact remains that neither the truck nor Captain McWhinney's dignity were disturbed by the onslaught of the enemy. Since the policeman having seen the entire performance, patted McWhinney on the shoulder and wished him well and since the enemy

appeared chagrined because of his error Saint John's banners were born home by the Captain in triumph.

HONOR ROLL**March Honor Roll of Upper School:**

1. Wheeler D.	93.3
2. Wheeler C.	93.2
3. Hoskinson	91.4
4. Wilson	91.4
5. Phillips	89.
6. Fisher	88.
7. Lieser	87.4
8. Edwards	87.4
9. Jackson	86.8
10. McWhinney	86.3

March Honor Roll of Lower School:

1. Miller C.	88.3
2. Newton	85.7
3. Mourning	83.5
4. Overton	83.3
5. Addis	82.7
6. Thorn	82.4
7. Golike, C.	81.2
8. Ripley, C.	81.
9. Roth	80.6
10. Ripley, E.	80.4
Pratt	80.4

HONOR ROLL**April Honor Roll of Upper School:**

1. Wheeler D.	93.3
2. Wheeler C.	92.4
3. Hoskinson	91.8
4. Phillips	89.8
5. Brodie	88.
6. Wilson	87.6
7. McWhinney	86.8
8. Edwards	86.4
9. Blunt	86.
10. Schafer K.	85.5

April Honor Roll of Junior School:

1. Miller C.	88.3
2. Mourning	87.3
3. Ripley E.	85.7
4. Addis	83.
6. Thorn	82.3
7. Eagle	80.6
8. Golike, C.	80.6
9. Overton	80.6
10. Roth	80.4

WELCOME CHILDERS.

The cadets and faculty of Saint Johns were glad to welcome another new cadet recently. Cadet Childers is from Coffeyville, Kansas. He is already showing up well in his academic work. Although it is rather late in the year for a new cadet to enroll, we are sure that Childers will show up in fine shape at summer school. Here's wishing you luck, Childers.

A zero a day keeps the diploma away. —Ex.

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BOWLING.

Bowling seemed to be one of the main winter sports. Saint John's had a good team considering the experience the team had had. The games played were under the by-laws of the Y. M. C. A. and they also were played on their alleys. The season was divided into two separate halves, Saint John's finished fourth and third.

The team consisted of Colonel Ganssle, Major Perkins, Major Davies, Corp. Riblett, Cadets Hartman and Jamison.

Colonel Ganssle holds the highest score for the entire season, bowling one game 212. Major Davies next with 205. The other teams in the league were: International Harvester Co., High Five, Light Co. No. 1, Light Co. No. 2, Post Office No. 1, Post Office 2. Many very close game took place. The closest game was when the International Harvester Co. won from Saint John's 2144 to 2143. Mr. Martin of the Y. M. C. A. acted as manager. Saint John's should have a winning team next winter.

Where Light Was Needed.

The stingy farmer was scoring the hired man for carrying a lighted lantern to call on his best girl.

"The idea," he exclaimed. "When I was courtin' I never carried a lantern; I went in the dark."

"Yes," said the hired man sadly, "and look what you got."

—The Pepper Box.

A stranger was being shown thru the rooms of the Boston Chapter of G. O. O. F's.

"And is this the lodge room?" he asked.

"Well, it is rather lodge, of course, but the one next to it is much lodgah."

—Royal Gaboon.

A junior journeying along a lonely path was stopped by a highwayman who thrust a revolver in his face and said:

"Your money or your life"—

"Take my life, take my life—I'm saving my money for the Prom.—Ex.

We learn from some of our most reliable statistics that 90 per cent of the automobile accidents are caused from loose nuts on the steering wheel.—Ex.

Prof.—I'll give you just one day to hand in that paper.

Stude—All right. How about the Fourth of July? Purple Parrot.

Logis.

Frosh—You know more than I do.

Soph.—Of course.

Frosh—You know me, and I know you.

—Sun Dodger.

I AM MY OWN GRAND-FATHER.

I married a widow with a grown up daughter. My father visited our house very often and fell in love with my step-daughter and married her. So my father became my son-in-law and my step-daughter my mother because she is my father's wife. Some time after my wife had a son. He is my father's brother-in-law and my uncle for he is a brother of my step-mother, my father's wife, my step-daughter.

My step-daughter also had a son. He is of course my brother and also my grandson for he is the son of my daughter, my wife is my grandmother because she is my mother's mother. I am my wife's husband and grandson at the same time, and as the husband of a person's grand-mother is his grand-father, I am my own grand-father.

—Brodie.

Cynical bystander: Can you imagine anything more asinine than to waste one's time catching butterflies?

Prof. Gump: No, Freeman, other than it might be watching someone else catch them.

He—What kind of a dress is that?

She—A dotted swiss.

He—How dumb of me. Cheesecloth of course.

—Mink.

Thirteen to One.

Judge—Prisoner, the jury finds you guilty.

Prisoner—That's all right, Judge, I know you're too intelligent to be influenced by what they say.

—Jester.

The new night watchman at the Observatory was watching someone using the big telescope. Just then a star fell.

"Begorra," he said to himself, "that fella sure is a crack shot."

—Reel.

Proctor (entering room)—"You're drunk. I saw you running around here in a circle."

Freshman—"No, sir, I'm not drunk, I was just trying to read the names of a Victrola record while it was playing."

—Tiger.



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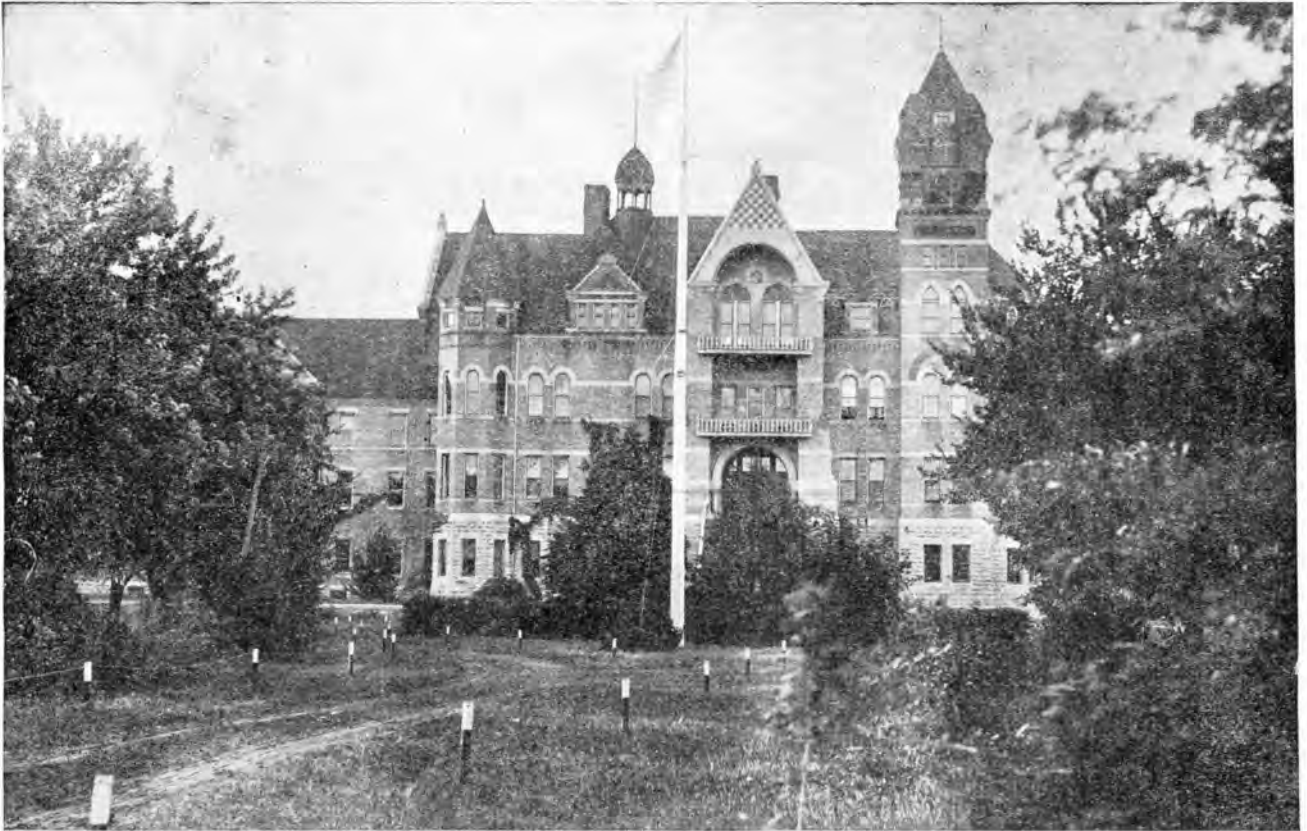
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