

The Skirmisher

ST. JOHN'S MILITARY SCHOOL, SALINA, KANSAS

Vol. VIII.

JANUARY 26, 1925

No. 4.

THE BEST ESSAY ON MILITARY TRAINING WAS WRITTEN BY LIEUT. BRUCE EDWARDS

Benefits Derived from Military Training

Military training is, no doubt one of the greatest assets to the growing boy, attainable. It is in a sense, the foundation of the character of a boy, say from twelve to sixteen years of age. If enough effort and initiative are put forth in this training, the results will not only be of the highest quality, but, will be a surprise to all interested in the early training due a boy. Some of the basic principles of military training are, obedience, honesty, cleareity of performance of duty, and health and the full development of the body.

Obedience

When a boy is just starting his career, in a military school, one of the first lessons taught him, is that of obeying. Just as he is taught at home, to obey his father and mother, so he is taught in military training to obey all persons who are superior to him. This fits him for the tasks in life, which he is bound to meet, sooner or later.

Honesty

Honesty is a very important factor in the development of military training. One must be honest before he will even be recognized by any of his fellowmen, either out in the world, or at home. A liar is not tolerated in a military institution.

Celerity, or Promptness of Duty

Celerity, or promptness in the performance of a duty is an essential thing in military training. A boy is taught to be punctual in line of duty at all times, and in every day life.

Health and Full Development of the Body

The health and development of the body, is a most important factor in

the training of the boy, for if he lacks health, he lacks the power and ingenuity of putting things across. Military training insists that the health be in fine shape, and the body in a sage of development at all times.

Military training is a means for the progress of the world, therefore let us remember that "the boys of today are the men of tomorrow," and the benefits derived from the military training given a fortunate boy, for he is fortunate, will make the real man of tomorrow.

B. N. EDWARDS.

HONOR ROLL

Honor Roll—Upper School

1. Shortt, P.	90.8
2. Fisher	89.4
3. Utterback	88.
4. Jeanin	87.
5. Edwards	86.2
6. Reese	86.2
7. Lieser	86.
8. Jackson	86.
9. Abbott	85.2
10. Hover	84.6

Honor Roll—Junior School

1. Austin, J.	91.1
2. Kintz	88.4
3. Mitchell	87.9
4. Hickory	84.4
5. Thorn	84.2
6. Bivens	84.
7. Scott, 2	83.1
8. Ripley, E.	81.8
9. Warde	81.
10. Mourning	79.9

TWO YEARS AGO THIS MONTH—

St. John's beat Chapman in Basketball by a score of 21-19.—Let's do it again this year.

Robert Paddock and Harry Fuhrman were enrolled here as new boys. They are still with us and are taking an active interest in all sports. They play on the first Basketball team this year.

St. John's beat Bavaria 39-7. Most of the old boys will remember this.

PROSPECTS FOR THE CRACK SQUAD

The Crack Squad held a meeting January the eleventh and selected seven new members, making a total of sixteen men, one captain and one bugler. Names were set up for votes and bids were then sent to those chosen. All were accepted. The old members take pleasure, then, in naming the new members as follows: Phillips, Newman, Lester, Putnam, Holmes, Leiser, and Crooks as bugler.

With the experience of the old members and the apparent willingness and interest of the new members, the Crack Squad looks for a prosperous and successful year. Everyone knows of the wonderful success they met last year, as shown by the numerous drills in town and the trip to Topeka, Kansas.

With the group they now have there is little doubt as to their success.

As to prospective places to drill, the Crack Squad, in their recent meeting, seemed to be eager to go to Kansas City and to Denver. Due to the fact that most of the boys are from Denver or surrounding parts of Colorado they seem to be eager for the trip to their home state.

The Squad has planned, under Captain Bland's and Col. Ganssle's guidance, to perfect a drill which is to last for approximately twenty minutes. This will call for hard work and co-operation of every member of course.

The uniforms, as far as has been decided, are to be of pure white material with black and orange trimmings, even to the over-seas caps. Samples are en route at the present time.

With all this in view, plus the cadet corps' backing the Crack Squad expects to, and will, make a banner year of it.

Whitehead, in Com. Law: A franchise is where a street car company gets a monotony on the business. (monopoly).

ITEMS FROM OLD SKIRMISHERS

This following article was taken from the St. John's catalog of 1905. The pennant is still to be seen in the hall next to the office.

Winners of Pennant

From June 9th to 18th, 1904, the Cadets within the Fair grounds at St. Louis. On June 11th the St. John's Cadets won in competitive drill the pennant offered by the World's Fair authorities to the best drilled company in camp upon the grounds. St. John's won the pennant over three competitors, a fourth having been ruled out because of not drilling according to United States army regulations.

Concerning the exhibition of the Cadets the St. Louis Globe-Democrat says: The St. John's Cadets were commanded by Major E. L. Oldham, and gave one of the most faultless military exhibitions since the departure of the West Pointers.

The decision of the judges was not reached until St. John's had been recalled to give a special exhibition in platoon movement. The perfection of their cadence and their thorough knowledge of military maneuvers was acknowledged by the award of the pennant offered by the exposition.

The excellence of the training of the Cadets during the past year, 1905-1906, was fully up to the standard of the praise for their exhibitions both in Salina and of the School campus during Commencement week.

The following article appeared in a Quick Time dated February 16, 1916. The Quick Time was a school paper at St. John's during this year, but the name was later changed to the Skirmisher.

Definitions of Military Terms

Right Dress—To dress right, to have your uniform on properly with the trousers facing the front.

Mess—A rare sight—Yewdall's room—Christie's hair.

Taps—Little love pats given by Fry.

Recall—To make Stubbs take it back.

Delinquent—Not having enough money to go to town on Saturday night.

Dress Parade—When Gable gets to wear the sword to church.

Inspection—A search to find where Bert left his cap.

Retreat—Strom running from Captain Tuttle.

Bugler—A low-down cousin of Big Ben.

Tattoo—Usually administered with a hair brush or sabre.

Quarters—The rooms occupied by the cadets; also one half of our subscription price.

Military Discipline—Anything interfering with a game of nosey poker.

Officer-of-the-day—A big grafter who gets off for the day.

This one dates January 10, 1920.

The Skirmisher had quit boasting of its national circulation, for other publications have that to boast of too. Its circulation now goes beyond the limits of the United States. Which means that one will go all the way to Beirut, Syria, to Mrs. S. W. Small, mother of Captain S. W. Small, and another to Mr. S. H. Allen, Cardiff, South Wales, England, a former St. John's instructor.

FOR MAJOR PERKINS

St. John's camp named for Salina Soldier

This year's St. John's camp was named Camp Perkins in honor of Major Roy Perkins of Salina, who has been honored by the United States and France for gallantry in action.

Major Perkins, then Capt. Perkins, left Salina with Company M as captain. After being cited for bravery in France and after being gassed, he returned to the United States as instructor at Camp Funston and was promoted to major shortly before the armistice. He would have returned to France with the Tenth Division, probably, if the fighting had not stopped.

Although it was known he had been honored by the United States government no one knew that he also had been given the French war cross, as the following extract from the Salina Evening Journal shows: That Major Roy Perkins is the proud possessor of the Croix de Guerre, the highest honor that can be bestowed by the French government, was revealed last night to the crowd at the Company M dinner at the Methodist Church. Strangely enough, he has had it for more than a year, but it remained for another soldier, Col. Fred R. Fitzpatrick to tell the story of the award." Major Perkins was instruc-

tor in military science at St. John's School in the spring of 1917.

The above article came from a Skirmisher of May 30, 1919. We take great pride in stating that Major is at present one of our instructors teaching military science. The cadets hope to have him for some time to come, too.

Mr. L. A. McWhinney of Loveland, Colorado, called at the school. Mac was the Senior Captain last year and later became Cadet Mjor of the Cadet Corps. Mac and his wife, Mrs. McWhinney, will remain in Salina until spring and then expect to go to California. McWhinney graduated with the class of '24.

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CRACK SQUAD (SITTING)

To-MY-Son

Do you know that your soul is of my
soul, such part,
That you seem to be fibre and core of
my heart?
None other can pain me as you, dear,
can do;
None other can please me or praise
me as you.

Remember the world will be quick
with its blame,
If shadow or stain ever darken your
name,
"Like mother like son" is a saying so
true,
The world will judge largely of
"Mother" by you.

Be yours then the task, if task it shall
be,
To force the proud world to do hom-
age to me,
Be sure it will say when its verdict
you've won,
"She reaped as she sowed," Lo, this
is her son.

Coach McGrew in class: What do
farmers buy to fertilize the soil?
Overton: Burlap.

BEST IMPROVEMENTS

At the beginning of every school
year, each cadet is put through a
small physical examination. His
height and weight are taken and dif-
ferent parts measured. The purpose
of these exams is to determine to a
fine point just how much each cadet
improves physically through the peri-
od of the school term.

Just before Christmas the boys
were all put through the exam. and
the results were very startling. Af-
ter all were taken and looked over it
was found that Cadets Geo. Newman
and R. Buchaneau showed the best

marked improvements of all cadets in
school. The statistics are indeed as-
tonishing in these two cases especial-
ly, and we think that it is a develop-
ment of which these cadets can feel
justly proud.

Harold Brewer of the class of '19
is attending Inter Mountain Union
College which is a combination of
Montana Wesleyan and the College of
Montana. His grades show that he
is making good and since his parents
have moved to Mount Hope, Kansas,
we hope to have a visit from him in
the near future.

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The Skirmisher

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Cadet Hugh Lieser was editor of the December Number of the Skirmisher.

The Skirmisher Board, for the sake of variety, is giving its readers something different in this issue. Old Skirmishers dating back as far as 1916, were resurrected and articles which ought to be of interest were taken therefrom.

Some of these articles will undoubtedly bring back memories of dear old school days to some who have graduated from St. John's. We hope that all who read them will enjoy them.

The following article was taken from a Skirmisher dated December 18, 1917. No matter how old it is it sets forth some very good ideas and every cadet especially ought to read it and take to heart some of the good points it contains.

On School Spirit

You have often heard students speak about the lack of school spirit displayed by one or more of their classmates.

At once the question arises, "What is school spirit?" It is merely existing in a school, partaking of none of the activities, neither boosting or knocking, or is it going out for all athletics just for the sake of getting a sweater and keeping yourself in good physical condition, not thinking of the glory or honor of the school. No, it is not that. Even though a man was a star athlete and helped his school win many victories, he would not be showing what is termed school spirit if he knocked his school. What sort of a

government do you think we would have if all the members of congress knocked the state every time the opportunity presented itself? You all know what would happen in a case like that and, exactly the same thing would happen in a boarding school.

Not all of the fellows knock the school for the sake of hurting it in any way, but they must have something to growl about and they take it out on the school in some way or other, either by growling about the food or howling about anything that doesn't quite suit them. A good motto to follow is; "Put away your little hammer and boost."

Are you showing school spirit by not backing your teams? That question is easily answered. Yet some of the fellows in this school don't seem to care.

If a man lags in his studies he lacks school spirit, for when he gets into college, flunks on an examination or two, and is expelled, the other students will wonder what school he came from. Or when that man gets out into the world and fails at everything his associates and other business men will form a bad opinion of the school he attended and will see to it that their sons are not sent there. How many fellows want to go from this school and advertise that it is a worthless one? Not very many of them. Nevertheless that is precisely what will happen if he slackers continue to slide along from day to day, doing nothing but harming themselves by thinking that they are "putting something over" on a master.

You know very well that you show a lack of school spirit when you are continually breaking the rules. Doesn't it make a wonderful impression upon a person to see half of the school doing "extra duty?" If you want to see the downfall of this school just keep on getting "squad," for it advertises the school as a reform school. But if you wish to see St. John's at the top of the list, do what you ought to do or at least try to do your best.

Fellows, we can't be expected to be perfect, nor do the masters expect it of us, but we can be expected to do the right thing most of the time. Now fellows, let's "do our bit" and boost help St. John's to live up to what she stands for, keep straight, study hard, never forget that we are students of the best school on earth, and stick to her first, last, and always, for as national spirit makes a nation, so school spirit makes a school.

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Commandant's Order

The following order was published on the evening before the battalion was dismissed for the Christmas holidays.

Headquarters, Cadet Corps
St. John's Military School.
Salina, Kansas,
December 17th, 1924.
Special Order No. 8

The following changes are announced in the personnel of the cadet corps to take effect this date:

To be 1st Lieutenants:

2nd Lieut. Robt. McCracken.
2nd Lieut. Byron H. Heaton.
2nd Lieut. Davis M. Bland.

2. Cadet 2nd Lieut. Bruce Edwards to be Battalion Adjutant.

By order of the Commandant,
Major R. W. Perkins.

SKATING

Since this recent cold snap, skating has become the most popular sport. Capt. Liesher has been going every afternoon accompanied by a large group of boys. Col. Ganssle has shown his interest in it by giving special passes to those who have been, by their conduct and grades, deserving of them. No favoritism is shown, fellows, in giving these or any other passes, but your work must be up or you can't go. Some of the boys have roasted "hot dogs" the last few evenings and report more fun than ever. The following are those who have taken the most interest in this delightful sport:

Capt. Leisher, Coach Zanoni, Lieut. Manion, Lieut. Bland, Lieut. McCracken, Sergt. Jamison, Corp. Cronin, Cadets Phillips, Pullen, Overton, Crooks, House, Moe and Bugler McElhenie.

FIRE DRILL

Before the cadets left school for their Christmas vacation, Major Perkins explained the necessity of being able to think and act punctually in case of fire.

An order was read assigning certain men to man the fire hoses which are situated on each floor in Vail hall and on the first floor in the barracks. Other men were assigned to stations at the head and foot of each stairway.

Two drills were conducted from the main assembly in Vail hall and one from the cadets' rooms in the barracks. In each case all were out on accounted for in a very good time.

CADETS REMAINING AT SCHOOL FOR HOLIDAYS

Christmas was kept in the good old style at Saint John's. Col. and Mrs. Ganssle had the Christmas tree in their quarters and all faculty members and cadets who were staying at the school enjoyed their hospitality on Christmas eve. The cadets who spent the evening were Hugh Lieser, Paul Jeanin, Robert Crooks, William Jackson, David Boatright. The faculty were represented by the host and hostess, Major and Mrs. Perkins, Captain and Mrs. Shideler. Mrs. Townsend who is visiting her grandson, William Jackson, was also present.

Several Cadets Were Late After Christmas Vacation

We, the cadet corps, wonder why Sanders, Hammers, Stone and "Romeo Pete" were late. We have just put down in our school history the most or one of the most wonderful things in the history of three years: Sergt. Hartman (OUSTIE) arrived at St. John's Monday. Of course we can see how this may effect other cadets. As for Stone, Oh! he was strutting his stuff in the little Burg of Salina. Hammers—is a mystery, although we have a good hunch that he was visiting that little girl in Eldorado, Sanders had a sore ankle and had to go to a dance at least once a day in order that it would heal. "Romeo Pete" was found in the postoffice reading just a few of his letters. Now of course there are no rules nor regulations about this, a cadet can go home when he pleases and return when he pleases. Military schools are sure hard on a fellow.

Cadet Utterback came back to school from Christmas vacation several days late. He was in a very appalling situation,—the toes on his right foot ready to fall off any minute from being frozen. We all feel very sorry for Utterback; at the same time it seems very queer he chose the last day of the three weeks vacation to freeze his foot. After all we guess it is pretty hard to leave the folks at home, especially one who is mentioned in the last Skirmisher as being "really good looking."

Traveler: Your son just threw a stone at me.

Irishman: Did he hit you?

Traveler: No.

Irishman: Then he was not my son.

Word has been received that Schaffer, (Gump) our last year's Company A Commander, is doing nicely at C.U. having passed in the biggest percent. of his work.

GOOD EXCUSE

One morning Sergt. Hartman arrived about 20 minutes late to class. Capt. John asked, "Do you have your book Hartman?"

Sergt. Hartman with a serious look on his handsome face replied: "Captain I'm Sergt. of the Guard."

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MIDNIGHT INSPECTIONS

Many have wondered why Major Perkins and the Officer of The Day have been inspecting all rooms in the barracks very late at night. It used to be that when an inspecting officer made ten-thirty inspection he had to scale a mountain of clothes, furniture, and other articles. Since the special inspections have been made it is quite noticeable on entering any cadet's room that it is quite different. Clothes are neatly folded and laid on chairs and the other articles in their respective places. Those who are not wondering—know. How do they know? Because they were forced from bed in the cold, small hours of the night and made to re-arrange their rooms in an orderly manner. Getting up very late at night in the cold isn't very nice for one's welfare and personal dignity—ASK PADDOCK.

A LITTLE INITIATIVE SHOWN

Of all the equipment which has been placed in the school a good wrestling mat seems to be one thing which has been neglected. Now that football season is over the pugilists and wrestlers of the school are at a loss for some place to work out. Accordingly it was decided that a mat would be the most useful and instructive investment that could be made.

A donation has been made by the Cadet Corps which will amount to enough to secure a mat about eighteen feet square.

Major Perkins has been instrumental in selecting the mat which is of very good material and also durable. We have one now, so let's take care of it.

Voice on the phone: What kind of fellows do you have there?

Warden: Oh, the usual bunch of murderers, thieves, bootleggers, and hold-up men. Who do you want?

Voice on the phone: Say, what fraternity house is this?

Colonel Ganssle left December 27th for Denver and Kansas City, in the interests of the school.

"North of Thirty-Six" being a moving picture show in town, Col. Ganssle issued a blanket pass to all who desired to go. The greater part of the cadet corps attended it, and a good time was reported by all who went. It may be interesting to know that the same characters that played in

the "Covered Wagon" were also in "North of Thirty-Six."

LIEUT. EDWARD'S INJURY

Due to an injury of the spine, Cadet Lieut. Edwards will not be with us for the remainder of the year. Lieut. Edwards sustained his injuries in football practice sometime during the year. Seemingly it was not very serious, but during the Christmas Holidays it developed into curvature of the spine caused by the displacement of the vertebrae. Dr. Edwards, now has it in a brace, had it gone for any length of time it would have eventually developed into tuberculosis of the spine. We sincerely hope that "Jew" will recuperate from his injuries and be with us again next year.

Mrs. Boatright spent the week-end following Christmas with her son David at Saint John's. Mrs. Swartz was also a guest at Saint John's during Christmas week.

Captain John Barker spent several days in Wichita in the interests of the School. While there he saw Dick Brodie of '24. Dick is working at the Arnold Brothers Motor Co. and hopes to go to school next year. Dick hasn't lost the ability to tell a good joke once in a while either.

Dave Wheeler, '24, is working at the Radio Research Laboratories in Hutchinson and is doing well. He says that he is going to learn radio from W. A. D. to X. Y. Z. Charles Wheeler, Dave's little brother, is night mechanic at one of the mills in Hutchinson. Reggie Hopper is also at Hutchinson.

R. B. McDonald of Denver, Colorado, who graduated from Saint John's in the class of '22 has been spending the holidays in Salina and stayed at the school. He is working with his father who is a contractor and will soon become a junior member of the firm.

"Cake" Belts Must Go

Major Perkins announced that all cadets wearing sport belts or other belts that are not regulation, must doff them.

A whole period of drill was spent in fitting all cadets with the regulation web belts. Every one received one except Shortt, G. (Tiny). They couldn't find one that would reach around his noble waist.

S. J. M. S. SCHOOL PINS

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CHRISTMAS AT SAINT JOHN'S

The great time of the year that both faculty and students look forward for is the Christmas celebration on the night before everyone leaves for home. This year the dining room was decorated with Christmas colors and candles were placed on every table. A beautiful Christmas tree was set up and decorated by the ladies of the Faculty and the presents for all present were placed beneath the tree.

Roast Goose held the place of honor on the menu attended by all the good things that go with holiday feasts. During the dinner the following program was given:

Piano solo—Cadet Sergeant Fisher

Vocal solo—Cadet Reese

Orchestra with variation—Cadets Harris and Crooks

Piano duet—Capt. Shideler and Cadet Utterback

Jingle Bells—By everyone present.

Following the dinner the tables were carried out and every one gathered around the tree. Col. Ganssle acted as toastmaster and presented each man with his gift and the jingle that had been written about him. An improvised chorus of cadets with Captain Shideler at the piano sang many touching verses about certain cadets and members of the faculty.

The Bishop presented everyone with candy canes and after the presentation of the commissions to the officers by Major Perkins he pronounced the benediction. The cadets going west left on the midnight train and those going in other directions left the morning following.

Headquarters, Cadet Corps.

St. John's Military School

Salina, Kansas.

Nov. 2, 1924

Special Order No. 4.

For having shown unusual will-ingness and determination in meeting and fulfilling the existing regulations and rules of this institution by not having a single report for infraction of rules during this year Cadet Horace W. Holmes is hereby granted cadet corporal privileges for the period of one month and is authorized to wear a good conduct ribbon for such period.

By Order of Commandant.

Major R. W. Perkins.

Boy: Look Ma, the circus has come to town. There's one of the clowns.

Ma: Hush, darling. That's not a clown, that's just a college boy.

MAJOR AND MRS. PERKINS ENTERTAIN

A delightful rabbit dinner was given by Major and Mrs. Perkins to a number of guests on New Year's Eve. The table was beautifully appointed and Cadets Jackson and Crooks served the courses. The evening was spent with bridge, Mrs. Ganssle won the consolation while Dr. Cheney and Mrs. Holly won the prizes for high scores. The guests were Dr. and Mrs. Cheney, Dr. and Mrs. Vermillion and Mrs. Johnson of Downs, Mr. and Mrs. Holly, Mr. and Mrs. Lindblom, Mrs. Ganssle, Dorothy Perkins and Joyce Ganssle.

The starting of the second semester brought several new boys to Saint John's. Among them are: Alderson from LaFayette, Colo.; Missimer from Russell, Kans.; Biggs from Kansas City, Mo.; Pullen from Denver, Colo., and Markley from Laramie, Wyo. A number of these cadets will be very useful in athletics, especially basketball, as that is the most important sport at present.

Hal Wilson of the class of '23, visited Saint John's on December the thirteenth. Hal is going to school at the Kansas State Agricultural College. He is getting along very well with his work and likes co-education fine.

We are glad to hear from Claude Doran, one of Saint John's old boys, who married a school teacher from Sylvan Grove last year. He is doing well on a farm seven miles from Russell, Kansas.

Due to the snows here since school began, Major Perkins has not had the cadet corps out on the drill field. He has been talking to the boys about regulations, their uniforms, and other important matters.

Major says that the cadet corps as a whole is doing very well, but that they could do better and that by the end of the year he would have a very good looking organization.

Mr. N. A. Barker returned to Boston for his Christmas holidays which he spent with his father and sister. He has returned looking refreshed by his journey and has begun work again.

A thing done right today means less trouble tomorrow.—Anonymous.



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