

The Kearney Military Academy || A Splendid School For Boys

For the purpose of providing a thorough preparatory training for college or for business for boys and young men at a moderate price and under the best influences, this school was founded by Bishop Graves in 1892.

The academy commends itself to parents desiring for their boys a school easily reached in a country unequalled for its healthy climate and one in which, while every care is taken to provide all equipments essential to the proper instruction and well being of the boy, and such as may be found in the best schools of its type, nonessentials are kept down in order to allow the management to put the fees at such a moderate price as to be within the reach of all.

The discipline and instruction are of the highest order, the boy is taught to work from right motives, every proper effort is made for his comfort and happiness, and the fact is never lost sight of that mere proficiency in studies is no more important than the development upon right lines of the boy's character; and this is the more readily done as the school is not so large in numbers but that every boy must come into intimate personal relationship with the principal and instructors.

The academy is pleasantly situated in the valley of the Platte, about a mile and a half from the city of Kearney, a station on both the Union Pacific and Burlington railroads. The location is an unusually healthy one and the distance from town sufficient to insure freedom from infection in case of the outbreak of an epidemic.

The buildings are large, commodious and in good condition. Kearney hall, the main building, is built of brick, four stories high and contains the rooms of the head master and family, study hall, office and dining room, recitation room, sick room and quarters for teachers and twenty-two of the younger cadets.

Lewis hall, which has been almost entirely remodeled in the interior this year, contains the gymnasium, a large, well-lighted room with about 2,000 feet of floor space, completely equipped with apparatus—horizontal and parallel bars, traveling rings, trapeze, etc. One end has been specially prepared for hand ball. There is a shower bath with hot and cold water and dressing room in connection. Here are also the carpenter's shop and the blacksmith's shop for the department of manual training, the chemical and physical laboratories and the chapel.

Cochran hall, the main dormitory, contains quarters for forty cadets and two masters. Each cadet has a room to himself, heated by steam and furnished with the usual bedroom furniture and bedding.

It is the intention of the founder of this school that nothing shall be left undone that can help to make the work more efficient. In this connection attention is called to the following alterations and additions



COMPANY AND MAIN BUILDING.

made during the present year: Electric lights throughout all the buildings, enlargement of the workshops and chemical laboratory, additional and more convenient bathing facilities.

The grounds, twenty-five acres in extent, are level and afford excellent facilities for drill and for the various forms of athletics so essential to a complete education. Ample space is given for foot ball, base ball and tennis, together with a small but good golf link.

Long experience has shown that a system of discipline, semi-military in character is most efficient in cultivating the essential habits of obedience, promptness, punctuality and neatness. Regularity of routine inculcates a methodical habit, which the cadet soon applies to all branches of his work, thus becoming a better and more efficient student. The daily drill of the school provides a regular physical exercise which shows its effect in better health, a more

correct carriage and increased mental aptitude, while prompt submission to authority teaches habits of self-restraint, and the exercise of it a proper sense of personal responsibility. The fact that the discipline is a means and not an end is never lost sight of, thus avoiding as far as possible the danger of making a performance of duties mechanical.

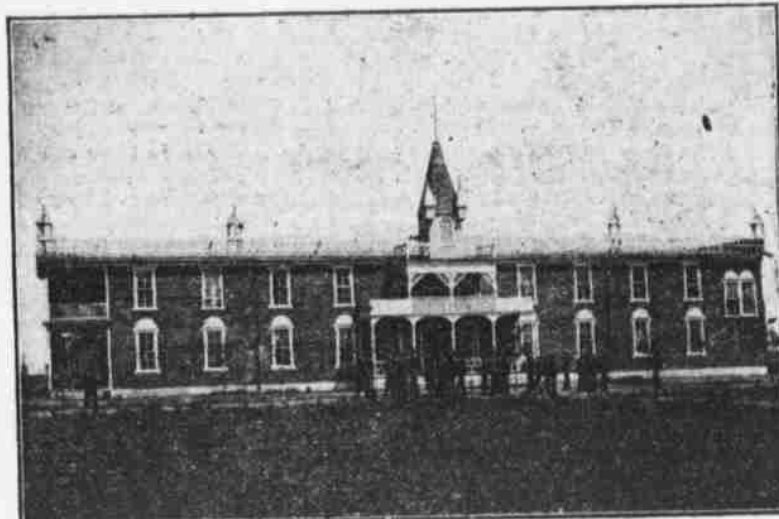
For the purposes of discipline and for instruction in infantry tactics the cadets are organized into companies, each company being commanded by a cadet officer, who is under the direction and supervision of the commandant of cadets. The officers are selected from those cadets who have the best record for study, conduct and soldier-like deportment. Length of attendance at the academy is not a necessary qualification to enable a cadet to receive an appointment. During the year the cadets have been divided into two companies, officered by a captain, first and second lieutenant, three

sergeants, three corporals and a musician. An important fact, which should not be omitted in this sketch, is the efficiency of the teaching corps. They are fitted by training, experience and travel for the work which they are successfully carrying on. Each is a specialist in his department and the work accomplished by the students is abundant proof of it. There is no hurry, there is no half-understanding of a subject, and the patient, persistent mastery of the work in hand is looked upon as an essential part of the training which is a leading feature of the school.

Thus equipped and thus officered the academy finds itself in a position in which it can offer its students advantages which the best public school can never claim—the best course of study, the best teaching and a home life and an influence which cannot be surpassed. From this last the students are never free. From morning until night and from September until June the home influence never slackens. The best-ordered home insists no more strenuously for personal attention to the requirements of cleanliness in self and its surroundings than the academy. The untrained boy may bring to the table the habits which a careless home life have allowed, but these are corrected. His language drops its mistakes under the constant watchfulness of the teachers, who, line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little and there a little, often work wonders in the boy committed to his care. He is taught to stand and sit erect, to hold up his head and to look men in the face, and after the lesson has been taught it is followed up until it has become a daily practical reality.

The real trouble comes when the cadet begins to practice here the vices which too many homes permit. Profanity must be stopped. Vulgarity in speech and action must cease. Lying and underhandedness must be given up. Tobacco is not allowed and all habits which prevent wholesome living and wholesome thinking must be changed.

To accomplish this the Kearney academy does not resort to violence. "Kindness is greater than violence; God is love," and if this last should fail, the academy is no place for that kind of a boy—the risk is too great and the results too disastrous. This is a conclusion of the whole matter. The Kearney Military academy has for its aim and purpose a home school which shall bring to bear upon its boys a rigorous training, morally, mentally and physically, with the single thought of making men of them, ready and eager to do the work that the world demands of American manhood and of American citizenship. With its limited means it has so far been able to realize its ideals. With these means increased, as it hopes that they will be, it is confident of correspondingly increased results.



COCHRAN HALL

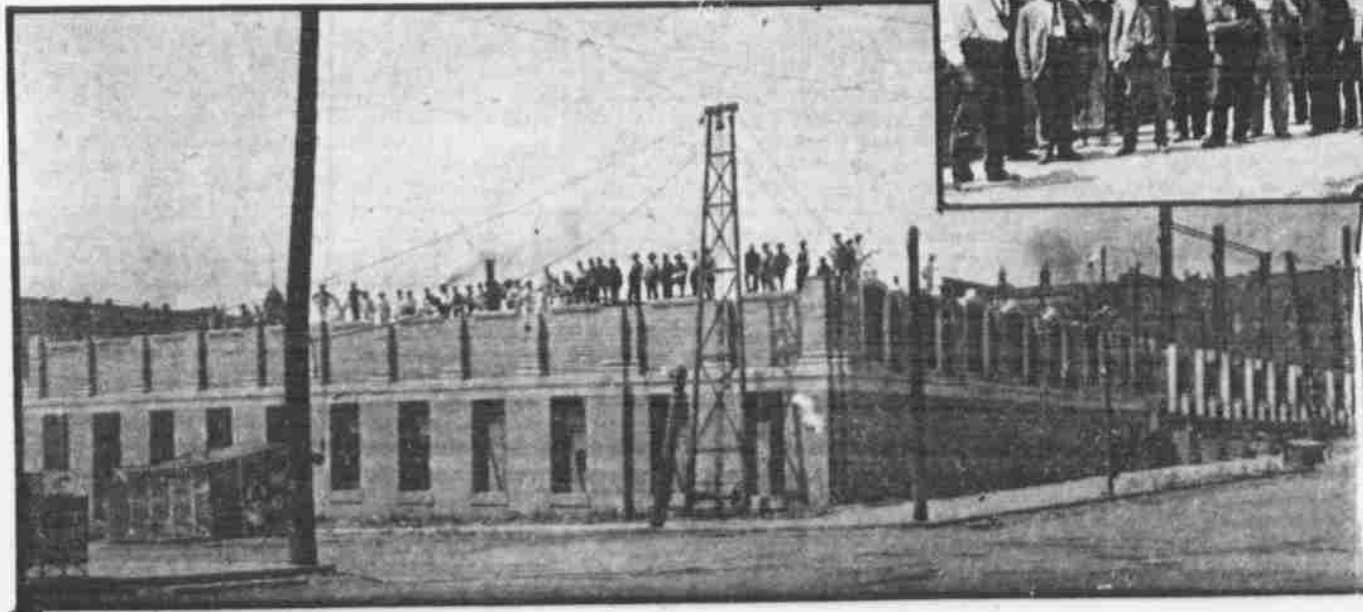
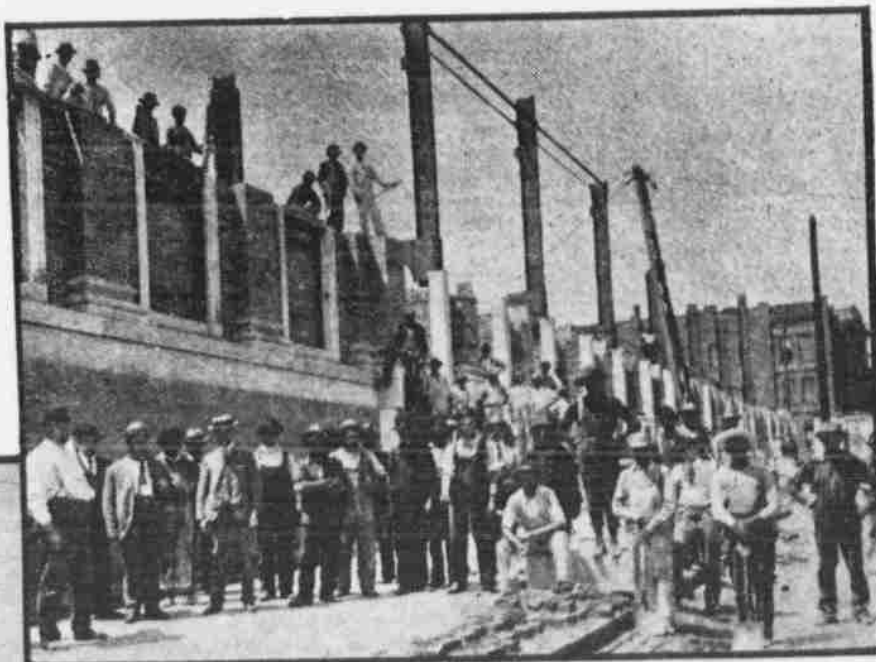
Progress of Work on the Omaha Auditorium

THE cuts here presented were made from photographs of the Omaha Auditorium taken July 8. The wider view of the two was taken from Howard street, east of Fourteenth, catching the northeast corner of the building and giving some idea of the full length and width of the structure. The shorter view was taken from Howard street, just west of Fourteenth, at close range, and shows a part of the north front. The contractors permitted their workmen to enjoy a breathing spell of a few minutes while the photographer trained his camera upon the building and builders.

The walls of this immense structure are

up to the floor of the gallery, but they will go up much higher before they reach the point where the roof will appear.

Since these photographs were taken several of the main steel pillars have been raised in the interior, around the main floor or arena, rising to a height of over seventy feet above the arena floor. On top of these giant posts will rest the trusses that are to support the roof. This mammoth structure covers an entire half block. It is 264 feet long and 132 feet wide. It will seat comfortably over 8,000 people and will have a stage more than ninety feet wide by fifty feet in depth, with a curtain, or proscenium arch, over sixty



feet wide. The building will be fireproof, being built of buff Bedford stone, pressed brick and steel. It will cost when completed ready for use in the neighborhood of \$300,000 and will be one of the handsomest and most substantial buildings of the kind in the country. But three cities in the United States have auditoriums larger than this, New York, Chicago and Kansas City. Unless there should be unexpected delays in the progress of the work, the Auditorium will be completed about the middle of December.