

SHATTUCK SCHOOL

## SHATTUCK SCHOOL 1945 AT THE BEGINNING

My enrollment at Shattuck began in the winter of 1945 and ended only eighteen months later in the spring of 1946. There is more to the story than was described in my Crack Squad narrative. Pages from the 1945 year book will serve as an agenda for this discussion.

The year book opens with its dedication to Earle “Duke” Wagner who was the Senior English master, head of the English department, the dramatic coach, and the choirmaster. There is no biography of Marlon Brando that fails to mention Wagner. He is credited with recognizing and developing early on Brando’s dramatic talent. From the Brando biographies:

The one area in which Marion took a more enthusiastic interest was the Dramatic Association, run by the head of the English department, Earl “Duke” Wagner, a teacher in his early forties. With chiseled features and a pencil-thin mustache, Wagner epitomized everything that Shattuck was not – urbane, witty, over-sophisticated. Usually wearing a flowing cape tossed over his elegant British tweeds, bright neckties, and silk handkerchiefs, he quoted Byron, his favorite poet, and in good weather he liked nothing better than to arrive at the school’s parade ground driving his shiny black Packard convertible with the top down, his English bulldog seated beside him. Students considered him “a gay blade” and “very suave,” a man who “cultivated an image and never stopped living up to it.”

Wagner was a bachelor and lived in Whipple Hall, too, in a small suite of rooms outfitted with Oriental rugs, overstuffed leather chairs, bookshelves filled with leather-bound classics, and, on the walls, eighteenth-century lithographs and steel-dye engravings. Shattuck’s answer to Mr. Chips, he often invited students in after study hall. While they lolled on the floor at his feet, he entertained them with monologues on the state of the world or recited scenes from *Hamlet* or *Macbeth*, often injecting scatological jokes to keep them titillated.

... He invited me to try out for a part in *A Message from Khufu*, a one-act play inspired by the King Tut legend. I got the part of a character named Ben. When my friends said that I had done well and Duke did too, I felt good. Except for sports, it was the first time since my shop teacher at Julius C. Lathrop Junior High in Santa Ana had said he liked my work that anyone had ever told me I did anything well. When tryouts for other plays came up, I went after them too.

Through him, I discovered Shakespeare, whose marvelous use of language transported me into a new universe. In the study hall, I had many hours to read Shakespeare, memorizing lines that I remember to this day.

When Brando was expelled from Shattuck, he was cast in the lead role in the commencement play, which was then cancelled. Brando comments on his final moments:

Unfortunately, my unauthorized absence was quickly discovered, and since I was on probation, I was expelled.

“Marlon, this school is not meant for a person like you,” Nuba the Tuba told me when he broke the news. “We can’t put up with you anymore.”

Sadly I went from room to room saying good-bye to all my friends. When I got to Duke, he surprised me by saying, “Don’t worry, Marion, everything will be all right. I know the world is going to hear from you.”

I’ll never forget his words.

My eyes suddenly filled with tears as he embraced me. I put my head on his shoulder and couldn’t stop sobbing. I hadn’t realized that I had been holding back a desire to be loved and reaffirmed. I guess I didn’t even realize it then, It was the only time anyone had ever been so loving and so directly encouraging and concerned about me. I looked into Duke’s eyes and saw that he really meant it. Even now, as I recall that moment, I am moved and touched by how much he meant to me... If I regretted anything (when Brando received his first Oscar) it may have been that Duke Wagner wasn’t around for that evening. By that time he was dead.

Wagner was my senior English instructor, but I also sang in his choir (see The Choir). In the tryouts, he claimed to be impressed with my vocal range. We sang, in addition to the religious hymns, *You'll Never Walk Alone*, an experience I would repeat as a member of the Great Lakes (Navy) choir.

I was not a great English student. Roosevelt H.S. (Mrs. Maynard), however, prepared me in math: I received the highest math average in the school, posted a 100 on the final exam, but was not given the math prize because I had only been there for one semester.

Like Brando, I can still remember these Shakespeare lines (from Macbeth):

*To-morrow, and to-morrow, and to-morrow,  
Creeps in this petty pace from day to day,  
To the last syllable of recorded time;  
And all our yesterdays have lighted fools  
The way to dusty death. Out, out, brief candle!  
Life's but a walking shadow; a poor player,  
That struts and frets his hour upon the stage,  
And then is heard no more: it is a tale  
Told by an idiot, full of sound and fury,  
Signifying nothing.*

The last five lines probably resonate with my grandchildren: ..... It is a tale told by Pipa Bill....

Probably more memorable were other moments in my English class. Geordie Hormel whose nickname appropriately was "Meatball" took great delight in surreptitiously sliding under the round table used in this class and tying our shoes together. Geordie showed up at our fiftieth reunion looking (except for the lack of foot long fingernails) exactly like Howard Hughes in his final days. Too, Geordie has commensurate wealth and five ex-wives (His first was Leslie Caron).

The "Duke" was thought by the students to be having an affair with the wife of the headmaster who at the time was serving overseas as an army chaplain. Perhaps just a few were more aware of his sexual versatility; he was (after 26 years)

unceremoniously bounced from the campus five years following my graduation, for having sexual relations with one of the cadets.

The greatest challenge for any new student is that of making a social adjustment with one's peers. Having been to six different schools in Des Moines and another in Los Angeles, it was probably easier for me than most. And, indeed, I made connections quickly. I remember especially the friendship of Jim Callison because he was a senior. In a sense, I can identify with Brando in this regard:

While fully accepted by students (In addition to the Crack Squad, I joined the same secret fraternity as Brando), I did not resonate with the faculty or military staff. Not only was I denied the math prize, but no mention of my achievements – math or the Crack Squad – verbal or otherwise, were made by any faculty. They could have at least have made me a private first class. My reaction began to show in my deportment and in my senior year, I received many demerits and “walked squad” (the penalty) a great deal. As Brando remarked, famously, in a slightly different scenario, “I coulda beena contendah.”

But the Crack Squad was my shining desire and moment. Its significance and the mystique surrounding it were monumentally seductive. I was in awe of its elite members who actually were only my age or a year older. John Rooney, the captain, at the time seemed a demi-god. Their pictures are included here. Jerry Huse and, to some extent, his roommate, Clayton Moran, taught me the manual. I will never forget Jerry's comment (in addition to the one telling me I would never make it)... “and watch your hands, they too should demonstrate precision.” (Note: Compare his with others in the 1945 squad picture).

Only eight months after first seeing the Squad perform, I was made a member. Never one to overlook documentation supporting a claim to fame, comparing my Shattuck tenure with the apprenticeship of the other newly-elected members is quite impressive:

<u>In Fall 1945</u>	<u>Entered Shattuck</u>
William Anderson	Fall 1943
Eben Dobson	Fall 1942
David Fesler	Fall 1942
Cornelius Hook	Fall 1943
Anker Henningson	Fall 1943
Prentice Hall	Fall 1943
Lawrence Jackley	Fall 1942
Benjamin Jaffray	Fall 1943
Carleton Magoun	Fall 1943
William Peverill	Winter 1945
William Sadler*	Fall 1944
*Captain in 1948	

Pipa Bill --- the first "new boy" in 63 years to become a member of the Shattuck Crack Squad.



EARLE M. WAGNER

# DEDICATION

TO

Earle M. Wagner

Whose enthusiasm and loyalty have added greatly to the morale and well being of the school. During "Duke's" twenty-four years at Shattuck he has been a warm friend and counselor to the seniors.

In the minds of the Senior Class there could not be a better dramatic coach and choirmaster nor a finer senior English instructor, so to him,

WE,  
The Class of 1945,  
Respectfully Dedicate  
This Book.

*“Cal”*

**James Walter Callison**

Des Moines, Iowa

Jim, in his four years here, has demonstrated fully to us his ability to work as well as to whoop it up with the best of 'em. In spite of innumerable good times in Breck and on Whipple I, Jim has earned his commission the hard way and has proven himself a worthy officer, for under his command the new band has made excellent progress. The loss of “Caliban’s” constant sense of humor and cheerful presence will be felt in everything in which he has participated.

ENTERED FALL OF 1941

Second Lieutenant 4; Staff Sergeant 4; Sergeant 4; Corporal 4; Private First Class 3; Officers' Club 4; Flag Company 3; Chief Bugler 3; Band 1, 2, 3, 4; Varsity Wrestling 4; Gopher Football 1, Gopher Basketball 2, 3, 4; Social Committee 2, 3, 4; Camera Club 2, 3; Bridge Club 4.



*“Coop”*

**James H. Cooper**

Springfield, Missouri

After missing his junior year at Shattuck, Harry has returned to take his place among the outstanding members of the class. He is known chiefly as an athlete, being unsurpassed on the basketball court and being a valuable infielder on the diamond. Moreover, his membership on the squad and his all-around popularity testify as to his other capabilities. Rooming with Jik and Kirb has made this year a busy one for Harry, though he has emerged from it none the worse.

ENTERED FALL OF 1942

Corporal 4; Private First Class 4; Rifle Team 2; N. R. A. Rating Sharpshooter; First Team Basketball 2, 4; First Team Baseball 2, 4; “S” Club 2, 4; Secretary Athletic Association 4; Crack Squad 4; Yale Cup 2; Acolyte's Guild 2, 4; Cadet Vestry 4; Bridge Club 4.





## ***“Hop”***

### **Frederick William Hopkins**

Seattle, Washington

Fred is the boy who has brought the Marines to Shattuck, and in a manner that we will long remember. Always on the go and in the thick of things, he has become well known to everyone. Because he mixes military interest with a sharp wit, we might venture to say that Fred typifies the Shattuck seniors' attitude and outlook. In losing “Hop”, we lose a great sense of humor that has its effect on all.

#### ENTERED FALL OF 1943

Private First Class 4; Flag Company 4; Guidon Bearer 4; Second Team Basketball 3; Badger Tennis 3; Badger Basketball 4; Choir 3, 4; Camera Club 3; Bridge Club 4.



## ***“Jerry”***

### **Eugene F. Huse, Jr.**

Norfolk, Nebraska

Jerry is widely reputed to be the hardest working senior in school, and we need only to view his record below for confirmation. Distinguished by three years of high achievement, he has accomplished everything he has set out to do. Being a member of the Squad has meant a great deal to “Jerry”, and he has been one of its most loyal members. Carrying high grades and *Spec* work on top of everything else is a hard job for anyone, but “Fuzz” has still found time to make many friends at Shattuck.

#### ENTERED FALL OF 1942

First Lieutenant 4; Second Lieutenant 4; Sergeant 4; Corporal 3; Officers' Club 4; Flag Company 3; Floor Officer 4; First Team Swimming 3, 4; “S” Club 4; Badger Football 2, 3; Badger Basketball 2; Badger Tennis 3; Crack Squad 4; Best Driller 4; Spectator Staff 3, 4; Reporter 3; General News Editor 4; Rector's Silver “S” 3; Head Boy Fifth Form 3; Colonial Daughters' Medal 2; Chicago Tribune Medal 4; Bridge Club 4; Quill and Scroll 4; Cum Laude.

***“Moe”***

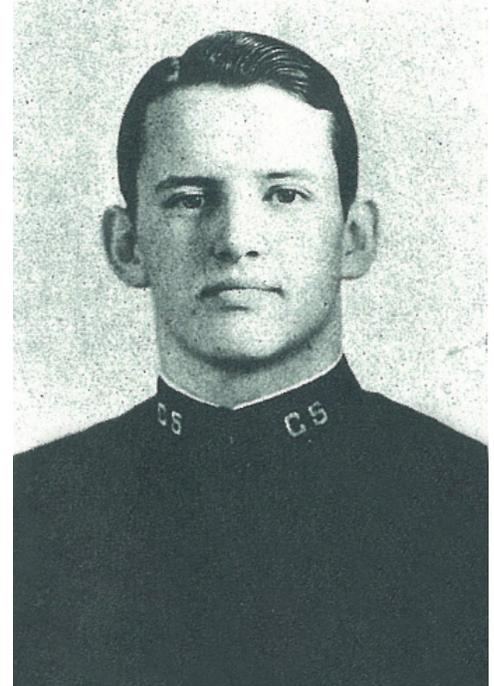
**Clayton Louis Moran**

Des Moines, Iowa

Though Clayton has been with us for but two years, he has made a name for himself that is hard to beat in four. As an athlete, it suffices to say that he has lettered five times, and his high scholastic record is self-explanatory. His abilities have also granted him a position on the Squad, and have advanced him to a staff sergeancy in the battalion. “Moe” is most widely associated with golf, as he has never been defeated in high school competition.

**ENTERED FALL OF 1943**

Staff Sergeant 4; Sergeant 4; Corporal 4; Flag Company 3; First Team Football 3, 4; First Team Basketball 3, 4; First Team Golf 3 4; Runner-up Golf Tournament 3; “B” Club 3, 4; Crack Squad 4; Dramatic Association 4; Commencement Plays 3, 4; Thanksgiving Plays 3, 4; Acolyte 3, 4; New Boy Citizenship Prize 3; Best All-Around Athlete 3; Bridge Club 4; Cum Laude.



***“Moe”***

**William S. Morris**

New York, New York

When we think of “Moe” we think of countless phonograph records of every type of music in existence. In addition to this mania, Bill’s experience around 308 with Harry, Simon, and the Beaver are well known to all of us. Going out for swimming, he has helped in turning out a successful season, and has justly won his letter. Regardless of Moe’s own system of playing, we are all aware of his being *the* bridge player in the classroom.

**ENTERED FALL OF 1943**

Private First Class 4; Flag Company 3; First Team Swimming 4; Gopher Golf 3, 4; Gopher Swimming 3; “S” Club 4; Choir 3, 4; Bridge Club 4.



## *“John”*

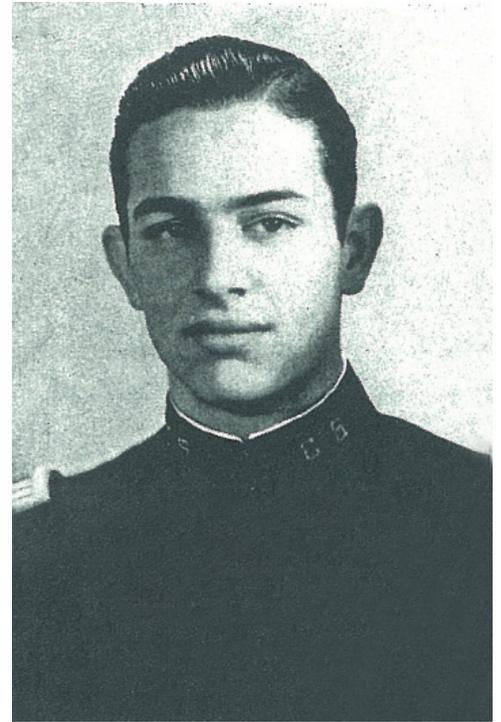
### John Edward Rooney

Muskogee, Oklahoma

As every class has its outstanding member, so have we John. His greatest accomplishment, perhaps, has been in developing a great Squad and leading it through such a successful season. Scholastic and athletic awards have fallen John's way in great number, and in the military field he has shown his merit by leading "A" Company to their installation as the 1945-46 Flag Company. Though John's days at Shattuck have ended, we all feel that he will continue his successes at Georgetown, and at length in engineering.

#### ENTERED FALL OF 1941

Captain 4; First Lieutenant 4; Second Lieutenant 4; First Sergeant 3; Corporal 2; Private First Class 2; Flag Company 1; Guidon Bearer 2; Officers,-Club 4; First Team Football 3, 4; Co-Captain Football 4; First Team Swimming 2, 3, 4; Captain Swimming 4; First Team Tennis 2, 3, 4; Varsity Track 1; "5" Club 2, 3, 4; Secretary 4; Gopher Football 1; Gopher Tennis 1; Crack Squad 2, 3, 4 Captain Crack Squad 4; Spectator Stall 2, 3, 4; Athletic Editor 4; Rector's Silver "S" 1, 2; Vice President Athletic Association 4; Class Secretary and Treasurer 3, 4; Junior Tennis Championship 2; Bridge Club 4; Quill and Scroll 4; Cum Laude.



## *“Mardy”*

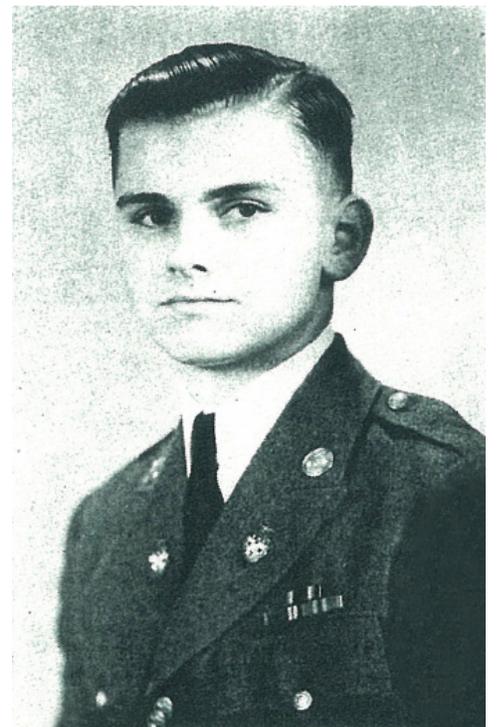
### Paul Schuize, III

Chicago, Illinois

Carrying on a family tradition, Paul has gone through Shattuck with an unblemished record. Taking his share of the ribbing, he has always come back with a smile and a good-natured attitude. Another of the Progressives on the St. Mary's affairs, he has many times exhibited his romantic prowess. Though "Mardy's" wide interest in school activities has brought him into many organizations, he has not failed to become a firm classroom backer.

#### ENTERED FALL OF 1941

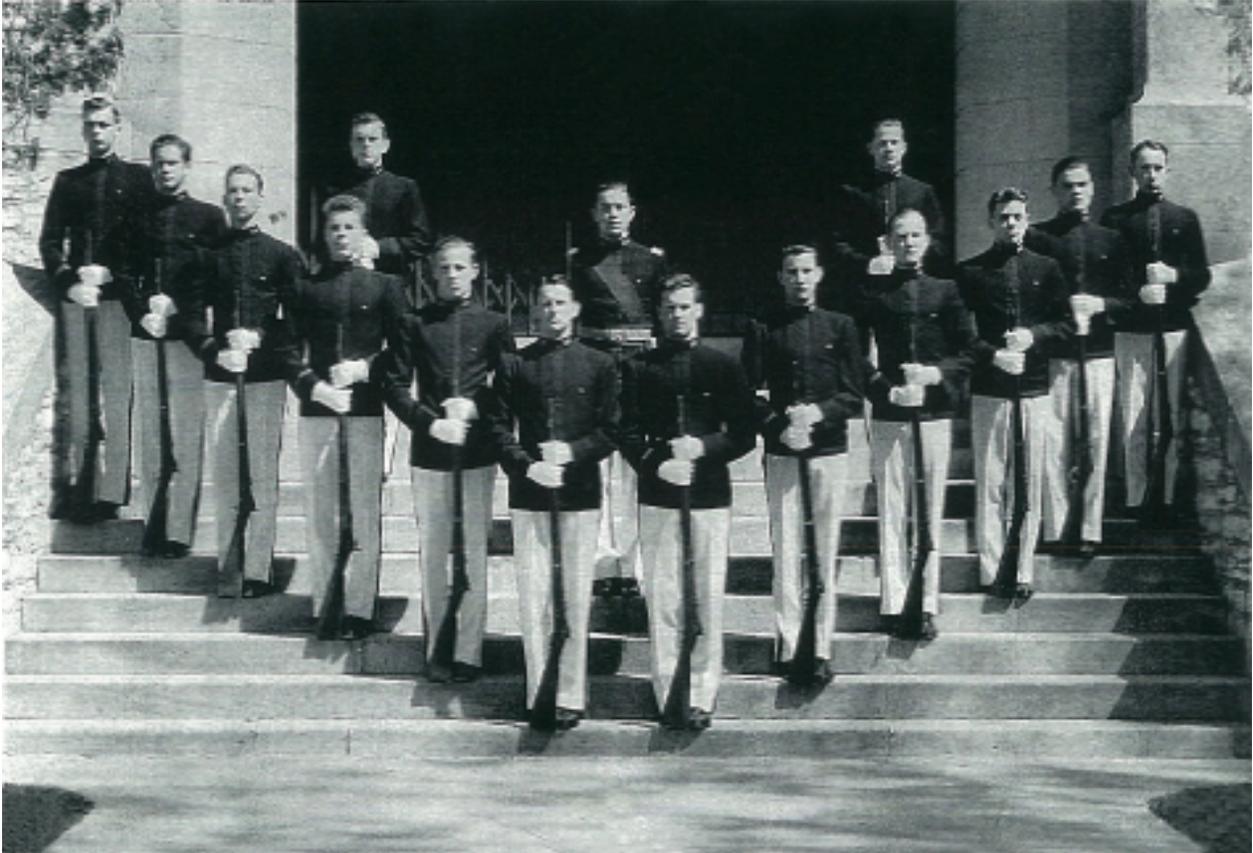
Staff Sergeant 4; Sergeant 4; Private First Class 3; Flag Company I, 3, 4; Band 2, 3; Gopher Wrestling 4; Gopher Swimming 3; Gopher Hockey 2; Gopher Baseball 2, 3, 4; Commencement Plays 1, 2, 4; Social Committee 3, 4; Acolyte 2, 3, 4; Camera Club 2, 3, 4; Spectator Staff 3; Bridge Club 4.





T H E

## Crack Squad



*Left to right: Gregory, H., Kelley, Niles, T., Hawkes, Kirby, Moran, Olson, Kadderly, Warner, Cooper, Bronson, F., Huse. Center: Rooney. Rear: McNerney, Kincaid.*

Election to the Shattuck Crack Squad is one of the highest extra-curricular honors at Shattuck. The Squad, because of its remarkable record of never having been beaten, is considered the finest drill-team of its kind in the United States. The Squad was started in 1882, and from that time until 1891 underwent many changes in uniform, organization, and the drill itself. From that time on the Squad has remained practically the same. The uniform of the Squad consists of a black blouse, white flannel trousers with a black stripe, white kid gloves, and patent leather shoes.

The captain of this year's Squad is John Rooney, who became a member in his sophomore year. Edgerton Bronson will command the '46 Squad.

Shortly after the beginning of school the eight old members—Captain John Rooney, Horace Gregory, Benjamin Hawkes, William Warner, Thomas Niles, Scott Kadderly, Edgerton Bronson, and James Olson—called the first Squad practice, and all those who wanted to try out and were eligible reported to the armory. From that time on practices were held every night except Tuesday

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and a kick-off was held every two weeks. At these kick-offs the tryoutees who had not shown sufficient improvement in the last two weeks were eliminated. Thus, the Squad was gradually cut down to eighteen by the time the final kick-off arrived. The final kick-off was held on Sunday morning, November 26. At this time eight new members were added to the squad. These new members were seniors: Donald Kirby, Harry Cooper, Eugene Huse, and Clayton Moran; juniors: Peter McInerney, Dennis Kelley, and Blaine Kincaid; the lone sophomore and captain of the '47 Squad was Rooney McInerney.

During Christmas vacation Pete McInerney was killed in a hunting accident near his home in Muskogee, Oklahoma. He was the brother of Rooney McInerney, captain of the '47 Squad. Pete's personality and good nature made him very easy to get along with and consequently every cadet in school was his friend. His loss was deeply felt by everyone who was associated with him in one way or the other. Before his accident he had achieved many honors, but his making the Squad was his greatest.

The first drill of the year was given at the Midwinter Carnival here at school. Every man performed like a veteran and the drill went off very well. The second drill was given for the government inspectors on February 8.

On March 19, the Squad left Shattuck to drill in Kansas City, Oklahoma City, and Muskogee. This trip lasted from March 19 to March 22. Mrs. E. J. Davis of Oklahoma City conceived the idea of a trip South early in February. Immediately Mr. T. E. Seibold of Muskogee and Mr. Byron T. Shutz of Kansas City began planning for drills in their appointed cities. Committees were appointed in each city and all arrangements were made for a Crack Squad drill. On this trip, the longest ever made in the history of the Squad, the boys were accompanied by Mr. Earle Wagner and Mrs. Donald Henning.

At nine o'clock on March 20 the Squad drilled in the ballroom of the President Hotel in Kansas City before 200 people. The drill went along smoothly with every movement receiving applause.

The Squad journeyed the next day to Oklahoma City, where they were taken to certain homes of Shads throughout the city. After a dinner at the Nichols Hills Country Club, the Squad put on their third drill of the trip. Drilling before about 250 persons, the Squad gave a splendid performance.

Once more the Squad entrained, this time for Tulsa, Oklahoma. Here they were met by several Muskogee parents who then drove them to Muskogee. The Squad dined that night in the Officers Club of the Severs Hotel. Also present at the dinner were several alumni and patrons. At eight o'clock the Squad went to the Central High School gymnasium for the drill. After the Squad members had been individually introduced, the boys drilled before 1,200 persons. Every movement was so perfectly executed that this was the best drill this year. Muskogee boys drilling that night were Captain John Rooney, Bill Warner, Tom Niles, and Rooney McInerney.

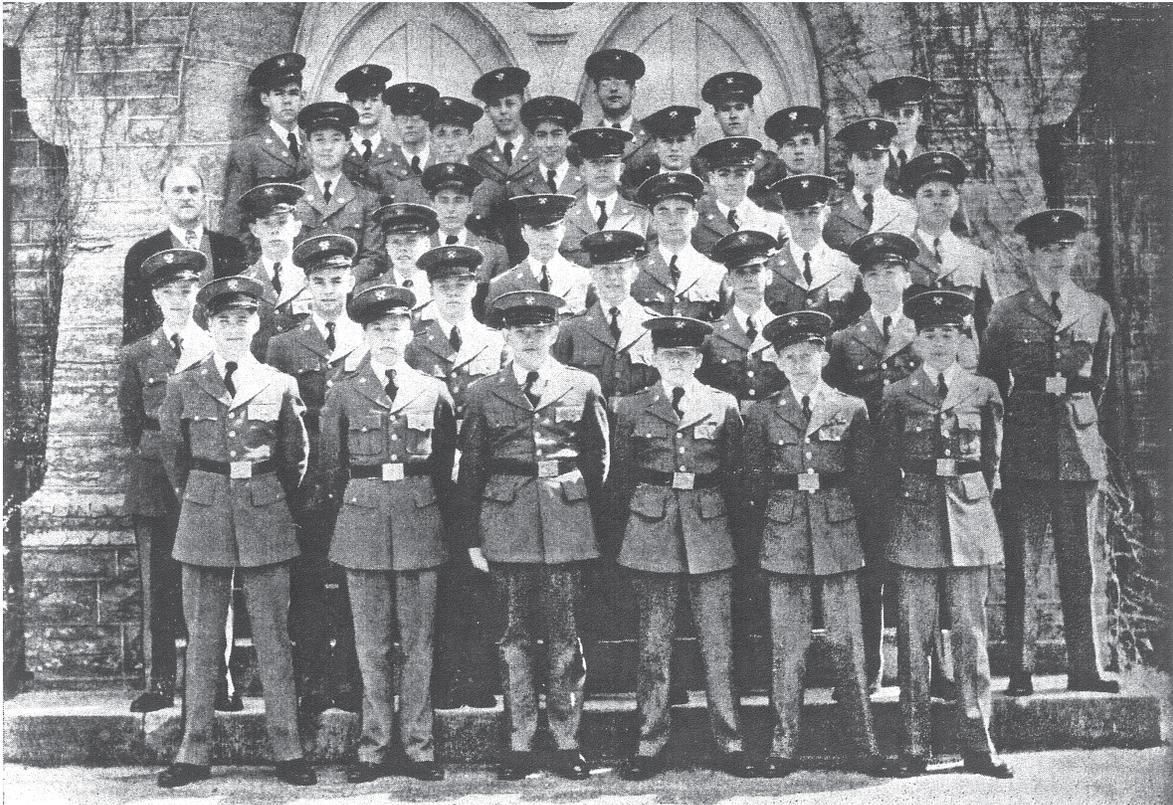
After spring vacation on April 14 the Squad journeyed to Minneapolis to drill for the Sportsman's Show. Although the Squad had not had many practices since spring vacation, the drill was very well executed. The applause during the drill was continuous.

The seventh drill of the year was presented here at school for the Junior-Senior ball. This was a drill of which any Squad member could be proud. The manuals and the step were practically flawless. In this drill the Squad introduced the "Criss-Cross." This was the first time that the "Criss-Cross" has been used in two years. This movement is very intricate and complex, but the Squad went through it effortlessly. After the drill Captain Rooney presented the best driller stars to Edgerton Bronson and Jerry Huse. Other drills were the government inspection drill on May 24 and the Commencement drill on June 3.

The members of this year's Squad are John Rooney, captain 1945; Horace Gregory, honorary captain 1945; Edgerton Bronson, captain 1946; James Olson, honorary captain 1946; Rooney McInerney, captain 1947; Niles, T., Warner, Hawkes, Kadderly, Huse, Cooper, Kirby, Moran, Kincaid, and Kelley.



## The Choir



*First row:* Schwander, Gleason, Hull, Gunn, Munger, Foster.  
*Second row:* Gilbert, Fite, Sadler, Einzig, Zechlin, Kent, Keller.  
*Third row:* Seitz, Peverill, Law, J., Rathe, Farquhar, Stokely.  
*Fourth row:* Mr. Wagner, Smith, J., Strange, LeGeros, Lau, R.  
*Fifth row:* Gibson, J., Shepherd, V., Hormel, Thernell, Hatfield, Elliott.  
*Sixth row:* Hopkins, Ghormley, New, Nelson, Bolz, Hobart.

Mr. Wagner has done a fine job with the choir this year. Starting with a nucleus of seventeen old members, he has built the choir to a membership of forty. Mr. Wagner resumed his former duties as choirmaster when Mr. Newlands left in 1943. This year's choir has easily maintained the high standards set by previous choirs. Ralph Ghormley is president of this year's choir.

The choir sang very well at the annual Christmas Candlelight service. Schwander, New, McIntyre, and Farquhar sang solos which were enjoyed by everyone.

It is interesting to note that in the last two years Mr. Wagner has added over one hundred hymns to those with which the battalion was already familiar.

The members of the choir are as follows: Bolz, Brooks, S., Einzig, Elliott, Farquhar, Fite, Foster, Gibson, J., Gilbert, Ghormley, Gleason, Gunn, Hatfield, Hobart, Hopkins, Hormel, Hull, Keller, Kent, Lau, R., Law, J., LeGeros, McIntyre, Morris, Munger, Nelson, R. C., Peverill, New, Rathe, Sadler, Shepherd, V., Scott, Schwander, Seitz, Smith, J., Stokely, Strange, Thernell, Zechlin.