

# The Weekly Almanian

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VOL. I. NO. 13.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1907.

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## FIRST NIGHT SUCCESS

Greenroom Club Plays "Much Ado About Nothing" to Large Audience in Opera House.

The Greenroom Club made its first appearance Dec. 4, in the city opera house, with unqualified success. The much talked of production of "Much Ado About Nothing" was given in a manner that won the highest encomiums both for the student actors and their trainer, Prof. Adams. The large and discriminating audience which filled the house expected a great deal but their expectations were exceeded by the artistic rendition of Shakespeare's sprightly comedy. The members of the cast went out of the amateur class in the presentation of the different characters; and, a thing unusual in young elocutionists, the lines of all were so clearly spoken that scarcely a word was lost by the audience from beginning to end.

Much charm was given the play by the beauty of the costumes and the effective manner in which the scenic grouping was managed. Everything went smoothly along from the time that Leonato and the little page, Balthazar, appeared on the stage in the first scene till Pedro stalked away with a toothache in the last. The work of Misses Caldwell and Allen in the parts of Beatrice and Hero was charming, Miss Caldwell bringing out all the verve and fire of Beatrice and Miss Allen never failing in depicting all the sweetness and innocence of Hero. Marsh gave a powerful and finished interpretation of the part of Benedict, Morse as the jealous and lovesick Claudio was convincing, and Phillips as Don Pedro was a gay and charming young nobleman. The work of Ackerman in rendering the character of the aged Leonato deserves great commendation, especially in the wedding scene. Perhaps the greatest applause was won by Dogberry and his clown brothers. Sutton, who played Dogberry, was immense, convulsing the audience time and again; while the work of the clowns, McFadden, Graves, Casterlain, Titus, Fraker, McComb and Bartholomew was equally good in its way. The minor parts were taken with the greatest ability, evidencing long and painstaking drill. Miss Bayley and Miss Markham as Margaret and Ursula did meritorious work as the waiting ladies. The John of Avery, the Conrad of Craig, the Borachio of Hogg were alike flawless. As a whole the cast was wonderful well balanced, and the "Much Ado" given by them brought back the times of Shakespeare and Queen Elizabeth in a most valuable and entertaining manner.

That a great deal of good will be derived from this success of the play by both college and actors is unquestioned. No stronger advertisement can be given of the strength of the school and the character of its student body.

Christmas goods at Rhodes' drug store.

## FIELD MEET IN JUNE.

Those at the head of the athletic department are already in action with the idea of bringing the annual intercollegiate field meet to Alma. As a strenuous effort to raise needed funds is the only thing necessary to swing the meet to our own field, we may now look forward to this event as the greatest thing, in an athletic way, that Alma could land. It is true that expensive improvement must be made and Davis field prepared for the event but when the landing of a good thing depends upon funds the management usually finds the funds.

The meet in itself would be a very desirable affair but it would only be a means to a greater end. If the field is put in shape for the intercollegiate it will then be arranged and improved so that a new stunt can be placed upon the annual program. It is to this end that the management is looking and the plan shows how much our Coach is putting himself into Alma's life, as the idea is his own.

The day is coming, has already come in part, when Alma can no longer depend upon her preparatory department to train and furnish material for the college teams, as it has done in the past. As the college proper grows, the academy is taking a place in the background. The college must now look to high schools for students and especially is this true in regard to athletes. Such being the case, with a well equipped field Alma can call an annual conference of the high schools of the surrounding districts and do much in this way toward arousing interest in spring athletics. The entering freshmen then will come with high school training and the results will be noticeable in the work done by our college teams. An annual high school field meet with the usual honors and medals, that is the idea, and when Alma puts the plan in practice on a first class field it will be a drawing card.

Dr. Bruske says "We want 400 students taking college courses;" with an intercollegiate in June and an annual "high" meet added to Alma's successes during the past two years, people will fully realize that "the little burg in the wilds of Northern Michigan" is coming to the front in an educational way and is holding her own with the other state colleges.

Talking of baseball prospects for the spring, Coach Harper says, "Base ball is uncertain business and depends largely on luck;" but to the interested fan who watched last season's hard drill it looks as though it depended largely on hard work and first class coaching. With the material at hand the chances for a winning team are far better than last year and if Harper's men are allowed to play the finals on Davis Field it is safe to say that the dates will see a home coming of alumni and former students and a record breaking year's finish, a fitting climax to the work of the past two years.

## NEW CHAPEL CUSTOM.

A few weeks ago Dr. Bruske re-established the custom of dismissing

the attendants at chapel in sections; first allowing the faculty to depart and after them, at a fit interval, the students. The Almanian commented on this delightful revival of an old custom and urged that the student body fall in with the idea. A short time ago we received a letter from Rev. D. M. Cooper in which he described the custom of Yale students standing while their president left chapel. Nothing more surprised the student body at Alma than when, last Thursday morning Pres. Bruske announced that the faculty had been considering whether or not they should suggest to the students here the advisability of rising to their feet and remaining there while the professors and instructors left the room; "But" added the Dr. "it will not be necessary to stand while the Pres. leaves. He will remain to dismiss you." The student body at this, acting on a common impulse rose to their feet and remain standing until the Pres took in the situation and, somewhat, "fussed" apparently, "blushing, turned and fled." Hereafter Alma students respectfully rise to their feet and remain standing while their Pres. departs from the chapel.

## FROM FARAWAY KOREA.

The chapel exercises were enlivened greatly last Friday morning by the unexpected appearance of Mr. Richard Henry Sidebotham, '96 of Fusan, Korea. Mr. Sidebotham, who is a foreign missionary, is also one of Alma's most brilliant sons and the students gave him most hearty welcome. He talked for a short time upon the work being done in Korea by missions and incidentally imparted much interesting information about Korean life and customs. Mr. Sidebotham is an energetic and thoughtful speaker and presents his ideas with a great deal of charm. Alma students are looking forward to hearing him again.

## CHRISTMAS BAZAAR.

The ladies of the Presbyterian Church gave a bazaar in the church parlors Dec. 5 and 6, and a supper Dec. 6. Among the attractions of the bazaar were a counter of Christmas goods on sale, a cabbage patch presided over by Mrs. Wiggs, Lovey Mary, and Europaena a witch's caldron where one might tempt fate for a nickel and a fortune teller's booth where a keen eyed lady read character and discounted futures with surprising accuracy. A large number of students took advantage of the supper Friday evening to vary their customary Wright Hall fare.

## PHILOMATHEAN

Miss Kirby and Miss Downie have entered the society.

The committee on programs arranged a very interesting Thanksgiving program for the last meeting before Thanksgiving, after which a spread was given in honor of Miss Edith Harper, who was our president last year.

The large new society banner was placed in the society room at that time.

## NEXT ENTERTAINMENT

On the Alma Lyceum Course Will Be Given Next Tuesday Evening, Dec. 10th,

The next number on the Lyceum Course will be given Tuesday evening, Dec. 10, by Frank Dixon. In speaking of this lecture the New Castle Penn. News said: "Witt, logic and eloquence held sway at the opera house. The lecture was one of the most magnificent ever delivered from a local platform. Frank Dixon has wit, eloquence, logic, intellect; and more, he has that divine spark called



FRANK DIXON.

genius"—the power that springs from a masterly mind, the courage of conscious greatness. The speech sparkled with a spontaneous and original wit that captivated the large audience. Unquestionably one of the most scholarly and intellectual addresses ever heard here. It contained humor, satire, ridicule and pathos—all delivered with the masterly touch of the finished orator.

## TO THE FICKLE COED

What stripling prep now clings to thee

O false and faithless maiden?  
Who meets you on the steady bench,  
With puppy love sore laden?

For whom bind up those golden locks  
In fashion so bewitching?

He little knows how very soon  
Your fancies will be switching.

He, innocent, will be amazed

To find that you are fickle

And when the next one takes his place

He'll sure be in a pickle.

I'm very thankful I escaped,

Though left without a penny,

For in the ocean of thy love

There's room for far too many.

Echoes from Domus Hoborum.

Christmas goods at Rhodes' drug store.

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It is nearly Christmas and the time for gifts is close upon us What gift shall we make to our Alma Mater which is giving us riches day after day? Our athletes have given largely of their strength to add to Alma's laurels, our song writers have given gifts of inspiration, and our actors and actresses have honored us. What is there left for the remaining students, we members of the common herd? Well let us seize upon the good that is there: let us do our best to show scholarly ability and make a mark or two in life for Alma and ourselves; let us believe in her, be proud of her, and do all we can to make her better. "Boom Alma."

**THE CHORAL UNION.**

On the evening of December seventh, in the college chapel, the Choral Union will present Gade's "Crusaders" a cantata on which they have been working for some time. Gade, the musical composer, was born at Copenhagen in 1817. He became known by his "Echoes of Ossian" (1841), studied at Leipzig, and became Mendelsohn's successor as leader of the Gewandhaus concerts there. In 1868 he was appointed Master of the Chapel Royal at Copenhagen. He has composed symphonies, an octet, the "Erl King's Daughter," and other works.

His cantata "The Crusaders" is fine and well worth the hearing. The solo parts will be taken by Miss Grace

Messenger and Messrs. Sutton and Morse; the Choral Union will supply the chorus parts, with Mrs. St. John directing and Miss Ransom at the piano. The program may be aided further by a piano number from Miss Ransom.

Since in a cantata of this kind it is necessary that the text be printed with the program a charge of ten cents will be taken at the door to defray necessary expenses. All who have any interest whatsoever in music should be present, not only for their own benefit but to encourage that worthy institution "The Choral Union." Remember the dates Thursday evening December seventeenth in the College Chapel.

**THAT CHAMPIONSHIP.**

The College Column of the Olivet Optic contained the following item last week:

"Olivet closed her football season Saturday, defeating Albion 12-8. Two goals from the field made Albion's points. The difference between this score and the 73-0 defeat inflicted in the practice game on October 19th, is accounted for by the fact that Albion was much stronger and Olivet weaker at that time. The Olivet team probably reached its highest efficiency in the Notre Dame game or the Alma game and has been losing ground since. At the same time that Olivet was beating Albion, Alma was holding M. A. C. to a scoreless tie. The M. I. A. A. situation thus presents complications. Olivet defeated Alma, but was overwhelmed by M. A. C., who was held by Alma. On the percentage system, M. A. C. would have first, Olivet second and Alma third, were it not for the fact that M. A. C. refused to schedule a game with Hillsdale and would not play Albion under M. I. A. A. rules. Alma claims second place. Small did not play against Alma and his absence is largely accountable for the tie score. Then, too, Coach Harper, of Alma, refereed the M. A. C.-Olivet game and knew all of the farmers' plays. It is very probable that if M. A. C. had played an eligible team against Olivet earlier in the season that they would have lost. Probably no M. I. A. A. championship will be awarded. Olivet is proud of the splendid record of her team, which has been defeated by but one M. I. A. A. team, and that one a team whose whole attack was built up around and ineligible man."

We publish the above clipping merely for the purpose of stating that Alma has made no formal claim to second place in the intercollegiate football contest. That claims have been so made we are aware of, but from the college athletic department no such statement has issued. Alma played her schedule without protesting any of her opponents. Alma was defeated by Olivet in a clean game and is not "sore" over it. The championship is but an empty title and should have nothing to do with clean sport. That Olivet had a splendid team is true enough, that it was the best in the intercollegiate is another story.

**LADIES' ORATORICAL CONTEST**

Last year the Intercollegiate Oratorical Association of Michigan decided to have the ladies compete in a separate contest of their own, instead of taking part with the men as heretofore. The local contest is to be held Friday evening, Dec. 13, in the College Chapel.



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Miss Lila Fellows, subject: "Francis E. Willard."  
Miss Lila Tanner, subject, "Living Without Apology."  
Miss Hazel Fraser, subject, "Necessity of Hero Worship."  
Music will be furnished by the music department of the college. The successful contestant in the contest will represent Alma College in the Woman's State Oratorical Contest to be held the same day that the State contest for men is held at Hope College. The ladies have worked hard on their orations and the contest promises to be good one.

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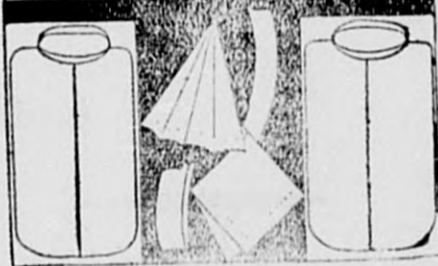
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# CLASS AND SOCIETY

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## SENIOR

Last Thursday noon the seniors were given a real surprise and treat by Mrs. Ora Lauderbach—Cratzenburg '08 of Breckenrige who visited at the college. We were again glad to welcome our former class mate and it filled us with gratitude to know that we were so pleasantly remembered by her. A good old time party was held and we will not soon forget the occasion.

The feast that we enjoyed was composed of all the good things Mrs. Cratzenburg could think of, and words will not permit us to express our appreciation of it. Nothing was forgotten that would tempt hungry and appreciative appetites. There were salads, sandwiches, coffee, pickles, jelly, and the best cake that hungry beings ever ate. In short it was a feast fit for the gods, but we are mighty glad the gods did not get it. We held the regular and meagre noonday meal in successful contempt for once at any rate. And as the unfortunate majority passed by our place to the dining room we were more than ever convinced of our good fortune by the envious looks that came our way. But, no matter, they had to be contented with the customary hash and stew. It is an event we shall always remember with pleasure and as we then extended a note of thanks to our charming hostess and friend, we again extend to her a most cordial welcome to come again. She will ever be welcome to the class of Naughty Eight.

The Y. W. C. A. meeting will be held at the usual time next Sunday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock. The topic is "The Magnificat: A Christmas Story," Luke 1: 46-55. As this is the last meeting before the holidays, it is earnestly desired that all the girls be present to be filled with the true Christmas spirit before returning to their homes.

## ATHLETICS

Basketball practice has started off with unusual dash. Class teams were organized last week and a series of games are being played for class honors. The men who show up best will be placed on the college team and will meet Mt. Pleasant Normalites in at least four games. The Normalites have a strong bunch of players and have taken far more interest in the game than our men have in past years but Coach has decided to push the game this year for all it is worth and it is thought that games with the "Aggies" and others can be made drawing cards.

The football season was one of the best in a financial way. Last year it was necessary to make up a large sum to straighten up heavy losses but this year Coach Harper's management has brought the team through the season about even, at the same time giving the boys the best that could be secured on all trips and fitting them out with expensive shoulder harnesses.

No baseball schedule has been started as yet but it looks like four games with M. A. C. one with Oberlin here, and a possible trip to Chicago. Michigan will be only too glad to come back after a few Alma scalps to make up for that surprise last spring. The diamond schedule will be one of the fastest and best that can be arranged.

Alma will not pick an all Michigan team this year. At the most, the choosing amounts to nothing and as we see the effects of others to pick the star men, we see things that, from our point of view, make us smile, even attempts at slamming are noticeable. It might be some satisfaction to come back with few of our own make. But cut it out and let's play basket ball now. It will be more interesting and develop our knocking along some other lines.

A redheaded man named Karkeet in the Commercial school had a seat. And he never skipped classes in school. Because he tried to abide by the rule.

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# The Almanian

The remainder of the year after Christmas

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## CAMPUS GOSSIP.

Toothache is a common disease on the campus since last Wednesday.

A surgeon in New York recently removed six internal organs from a patient. The fellows wish some one would operate on Pie Hall and remove a few cornets, banjos, violins and pianos!

Oratory is arousing interest now. Society contests and the ladies contest are events in the near future.

A communication was received from Olivet last week announcing that they had completed arrangements for the triangular league between Kazoo., Olivet, and Alma. The league is now complete. Get busy, debaters., the date is April 17.

Basketball is not the only amusement in the gymnasium. Rumor has it that there were "ethical gymnastics", in progress last Friday evening.

Dixon's lecture was fine. More about it next week..

Some one on the campus suggests the following All American team "For keystone position, Moore of M. A. C. because he can gain more than any other center. Marshall, of Alma for guard, because he can preserve order and arrest all rag chewers. Frost of Leland Stanford has earned the honor of being picked for the other guard. He can keep the players cool. For right tackle, Hill of Alma is the man. He is too steep to climb. Opposite him, Dirge of Cornell, so that all may know death follows. Swift of Elwell at end because of his speed, and for the same reason Lathers of Alma is picked. Bishop of Princeton is placed at quarter, because he can run the team with dignified solemnity. The halves are Steele of Alma for his endurance and Diamond of Union because he is always a shining star. Shadow of Alma should be placed at full. He is speedy and is hard to find. For referee, Dance of Yale; for umpire, Fuhl of Harvard."

## ALUMNI TALK.

Miss Agnes Bent of Shepherd, Art 1907, was recently married to Mr. J. M. Lehman, a former resident of Alma and is making her home in Detroit.

Alma students of the years '20-'03 will be glad to learn of the whereabouts of J Donald McGill, who was a popular commercial student at that time. He is now exchange clerk in the First National Bank of Birmingham Alabama

A letter containing one more foot ball song was recently received from Claude Watson, Com-'06 just a little too late for the season. He is at present keeping books for the Oliver Iron Mining Co. at Biwabik, Minn. He has a lucrative position and wishes to be remembered to the fellows, saying that the Alma men in Minnesota often think of them

Miss Ora Cratzenburg, ex '08, of Breckenridge, visited in Wright Hall last week

Kitchen Note:—Steve, the fusser is sporting a brand new apron.

Who knows it? Palmer, Tomes, or Henderson? Palmer lost a pillow.

Yes it had feathers in it. How about it, Tomes?

Miss M—(in Fresh. French)—This is the Socratic method of instruction

Fresh—Beg pardon, did you say Santanic?

Miss M—Why? Do you think it seems like the day of judgement?

Fresh—No. ma'am, more like the day after.

Christmas goods at Rhodes' drug store.

Miss H—(reading McFadden's poetry (?) in Soph. English (Mr Mc Fadden, what is a spooner?

McF (with great astonishment)—Why don't you know?

G. Anderson—Prof. Meyer, how do you write "yours very lovingly"?

Prof.—Maybe Miss Strong can tell you.

Mr. H—In Wright Hall Thanksgiving afternoon)—Do you notice how dreadfully the piano needs tuning?

Miss E—Why, no, I thought it harmonized beautifully with your voice.

First Student—"How did he get to be a college president?"

Second Student—"O, by degrees."

—Lippincott's.

First Girl—Yes, over at Seavers', we sat two or three in one chair at one time.

Bastone—What, were they all girls in the chair?

Won't someone please tell Reddy, Won't some one tell him how To write a shorthand sentence? He wants it and wants it now. It's just a little sentence, It's very short and sweet 'With Love,' is all there's to it, But 'twill make a Strong heart beat.

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