

The Weekly Almanian

VOL. 1. NO. 26.

TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 1908.

PER COPY 5 CENTS.

THE ALMAROONS

Their Entertainment was Very Successful and was Given to a Crowded House.

The entertainment given last Tuesday evening in the Opera House by the Alma College Almaroons was more than satisfying to their large audience. The entertainment was the last number and the best of a lecture course which was exceptionally strong this year. The members of the Almaroons quartette are Mr. Herman N. Morse, 1st tenor; Mr. Ralph McNitt, 2nd tenor; Mr. George Sutton, baritone, and Mr. Maynard A. Cook, basso. The accompaniments were played by Miss Gertrude Whitney and Miss Lula Allen.

The program was divided into two parts; the first consisting of solo and quartette numbers and the second of a presentation of Sir Arthur Sullivan's musical farce, "Cox and Box," which was given by Messrs. McNitt, Morse and Sutton. The program opened with a quartette number, "The Owl and the Pussy Cat," which was very well rendered and brought much applause and laughter, including an encore. Maynard Cook's solo, "The Monk of the Mountain," was artistically rendered and made a distinct hit. Mr. Cook responded to the encore with the "coon-song," "Malindy." The Almaroons then sang "The Little Peach" with a pantomime interpretation of "The Old Oaken Bucket" as an encore. Mr. McNitt's solo, "A May Morning" and the piece which he gave as an encore were both given very smoothly and elicited hearty applause. In singing "The Night Wind Sleeps." The Almaroons perhaps showed to the best advantage of any of their pieces. Their encore consisted of a surprisingly novel rendition of "John Brown's Body." Mr. Sutton created the real sensation of the evening by singing the catchy but difficult little ballad, "Rolling Down to Rio." This song, it will be remembered, was given by Lawrence Rea of Chicago at the Commencement recital last spring. Mr. Rea's singing was much commented on, and it is only justice to Mr. Sutton to give him credit for pleasing his audience as well as Mr. Rea, who has sung in grand opera. Responding to an encore Mr. Sutton gave "Pretty, Pretty Creature," which was sung by Mr. Rea. The Almaroons concluded the first part of the program by singing two humorous numbers, "The Quaker," and "Seein' Things at Night," and an encore, "When First I Kissed Sweet Margaret."

In the farce, "Cox and Box," the part of James John Cox, a journeyman hatter, was taken by Mr. McNitt, that of John James Box, a journeyman printer, by Mr. Morse, and that of Sergeant Bouncer, late of the Dampshire Yeomanry, with military reminiscences by Mr. Sutton. Bouncer's song, "Rataplán," the lullaby, "Hush-a-Bye,

Bacon," by Box, the song and dance "My Master is Punctual" by Cox, the trio "Who are You Sir" by Box, Cox, and Bouncer and the gambling duet "Sixes" by Cox and Box were perhaps the most appreciated of the several songs which were interspersed throughout the farce.

As a whole the evening's entertainment was very typical of the work of a college quartette, abounding in humor yet with enough heavy pieces adequately to display the powers of the performers. The acting of the leader, Mr. Morse, deserves special notice, adding as it did so much to the interpretation of the quartette numbers. Laugh-evoking funny stunts are certainly the long suit of the Almaroons and their cleverness will be appreciated wherever they sing.

ARTISTS' RECITAL.

A recital of violin, cello and piano music will be given in the College Chapel on Friday evening, April 24th, by Miss Davison and Miss MacDonald, of Detroit and Miss Ransom of the College.

Miss Davison was twelve years in Germany where she studied the violin under the greatest masters, while Miss MacDonald has studied cello in the French schools. These ladies with a prominent Detroit pianist have given a series of Trio Concerts the past season which have been the greatest artistic success. Of Miss Ransom's ability as an ensemble player the Detroit Free Press says, "Music lovers are indebted to Miss Ransom for her praise-worthy efforts to create a more general interest in the works of standard composers that should receive substantial acknowledgement. She contributed in no small measure to the artistic success of the recital last evening and her playing bore the stamp of genius."

Tickets of admission to this recital are 25c to college students. For sale by the ladies of the music department.

On Saturday morning at 10:30 o'clock Miss Ransom and Miss Davison will give a complimentary recital to the faculty and students of the music of Edward Grieg. They will be assisted by Miss Grace Messenger who will sing a group of songs and by Miss Messenger who accompanies Miss Ransom in the Concerto in A Minor. To this recital all the students and their friends are cordially invited.

GREEN ROOM CLUB,

"For us and for our tragedy, here stooping to your clemency we beg your hearing patiently." May 13, although some may be suspicious of the date and say it is unlucky, yet will be a lucky day for the college. The long looked for "Shakespeare's Water Cure" will be presented in the Opera House on that evening by ten famous actors the much vaunted Green Room Club. A school children's matinee will be given at 3:30 in the afternoon. It is hoped that the expenses can be covered by the matinee so that everything will be to the good for the evening. The characters and those taking part are as follows: Lady Macbeth, Miss Lila Tanner; Ophelia, Miss Win-

ifred Markham; Portia, Miss Gertrude Whitney; Juliet, Miss Edna Brown; Macbeth, Mr. Harry Marsh; Hamlet, Mr. Leslie Koefgen; Shylock, Mr. Allen McFadden; Othello, Mr. Frank Barthomew; Romeo, Mr. Stanley Graves

THE COMING DEBATE.

On Friday evening of next week, May 1st, the debate between Alma and Olivet College will take place in the college chapel. Preparations for this event have been in progress since early last fall, so the people of Alma are assured of hearing something good. In fact this will, no doubt, be the most spirited debate ever held in the city. Olivet sends her three best men here. However Alma's debaters Messrs Horst, Sayles and Bradfield are ready and a big battle is looked for. Three very prominent men in the state have been secured as judges.

Great interest is already being shown especially for the reason that another debate at Olivet occurs the same evening on the same subject. Messrs. Morse, Cobb and Marchmont will go down from here to Olivet and represent Alma. In next week's paper more extended announcement of the debate and debaters will be made.

The annual State Conference will be held this year at the Michigan Agricultural College beginning Friday evening, April 24th, with a banquet and lasting through Sunday. All the officers and chairman of committees of every college association in the state are expected to attend. The entertainment will be free. The only expense will be for railroad fare, probably amounting to about three dollars for delegates from Alma.

The speakers are all prominent in Association work. They include Dr. Warren Behan of the Institute and Training School in Chicago, Dr. A. W. Wishart of Grand Rapids, A. B. Williams Jr. General Secretary of the General Y. M. C. A. Cleveland, Warren L. Rogers student secretary of Michigan, J. Lovell Murray Mission Study secretary of the Student Volunteer Movement, and Frank B. Slack of the International Committee.

Lets have a large delegation from Alma.

Mr. Will Dove who entered the Commercial School at the beginning of the semester is very ill at present. His sister from Armada is caring for him.

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Staff

MT. P. CANCELLED

No Game Last Saturday—But the Baseball Squad and Track Men Busy as Ever.

Although the Mt. Pleasant Normal School and Indian School Combination team cancelled last Saturday's game with Alma it was Coach Harper's intention to arrange a contest between the first and second teams. The heavy rain on Saturday morning however, rendered the clay surface of Davis Field too sticky for use, and the disconsolate fans were compelled to spend the afternoon strolling or boating.

As far as may be ascertained from the behavior of the team in practice, the men are rounding into excellent form. True to predictions Hoben, the Adrian Star, is making good behind the bat, and Ehlers, the clever Ann Arbor kid, is covering short in fine style. The pitching staff continues to improve with the outdoor practice. The other members of the squad were tested last year and hardly need commenting on again this week, except to say that they make an excellent bunch to select a championship team from.

The track men are all hard at work. The discuss is flying better than 120 feet at present and by the time of the June meet "big" McCollum should be able to send it still farther. B. Chapel has come close to record time in his first trial at the low hurdles, but a good candidate for the high hurdles is not yet forthcoming. A number of men are after the 220 and 440 sprints and "Fleety" McComb is working away on the runs which he carried off last spring at Albion. The college record for the shot was fractured last week and the men are going after the hammer throw, though with small success at present. It is safe to say that visiting alumni will be surprised and delighted with the changes on Davis Field in the way of improvements. The cinder track is now completely refitted, a jumping pit has been made and the diamond altered somewhat. The watermain which was being laid in the field is done, as are also the fifty feet of bleachers which furnish a splendid place to witness games. The bleachers are moveable and may be shifted to give a better view of the cinder track when the track meets are pulled off. In addition to the college track schedule it may not come amiss to remind Almanian readers here that another big event will occur on Davis Field on May 29. This is the date of Gratiot County Interscholastic Meet in which will participate the schools of Alma, St. Louis, Ithaca, and a number of smaller towns.

Another try at those Indians on Wednesday afternoon. Make your dates accordingly.

Ask Steve Hill about his securing employment as a window-washer at Wright Hall last Saturday.

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Weekly Almanian

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"The Menace of Privilege," a book on the land question by Henry George Jr., contains the following quotation from Mr. James Bryce: "The love of playing and watching games which require strength and skill is as old as mankind, and needs no explanation. So the desire not to play, but to look on at chariot races and gladiatorial combats, was a passion among the people of Rome for many centuries. The circus factions at Constantinople have their place in history, and a bad place it is. But this case is in America a thing almost of yesterday. It has now grown to vast proportions. It occupies the minds, not only of the youth at the universities, but also of their parents and of the general public. Baseball matches and football matches excite an interest greater than any other public events except the presidential election, and that comes only once in four years."

Now the point of all this would seem to be that Mr. Bryce thinks the American mind preoccupied with play rather than with the more serious aspects of life. What is the general influence of our own college baseball season on the the student body. The men who are on the team, it is true, are there because they love the game and enter into it whole heartedly, but baseball is not the ultimate object of their college course. The stern discipline they undergo soon knocks out of their minds the nonsense that life is mainly sport. But how is it with the rest of us? Are we more interested in the athletics of our college than any other department of collegiate activity? Are we here mainly to be amused by athletics? An overwhelming student interest in the athletic teams is desired, but is it good for the students to manifest such an interest? Let us answer that it is a wholesome thing for them, if in addition to being interested in the manner in which athletics standards are being upheld, they are likewise busily upholding some standards

of their own. In other words, doing real work, with that real end in view. If one student strives for scholarship, another for oratorical honors, another for literary achievements, and still another for athletic renown then the school is in a most virile and healthy state. But let the predominating interest be athletic and we are on the road to degeneration. Rather let us be strong in each department and support each other mutually.

The musical department of Alma College hardly receives its fair share of attention in these columns. Those who are at the college and in the city can appreciate its excellence by such recitals as the one given in the chapel the last Tuesday evening before the spring recess and the Almaroon Concert Tuesday evening, April 1. The weekly recitals, although they are attended only by music students also do their part in increasing the prestige of the school.

But as a general thing much more might be truthfully said in approbation of the work of the School of Music which is not said. The value of the Almanian in advertising the merits of Alma's musical instruction among the high schools of the state should not be under-estimated. It is however, difficult for the staff to secure material for publication. If the School of Music people will only keep us posted on their doings we will be glad to publish them abroad in a way that will do them good.

The Art Department also, excellent in other respects is over modest in keeping the knowledge of its achievements secret. Surely the whole student body would be more than glad to know what happens in the studio. Now is it not possible that a reform along these lines be inculcated this year without the volentary co-operation of these two departments but would it not be an excellent source of news next year if the new management of the Weekly will only endeavor to glean the news in these two fields: An editor for both the art and the musical departments would not only add to the Almanian's interest but to its usefulness.

What is going to be done about next year? Are we going to have a Weekly Almanian? Seems like too good a thing to let it drop. Then, let's get busy and pay up our subscriptions. And who are you going to elect to fill up the vacancies that will be created on the staff? Better get to thinking about that. That meeting to amend the constitution will be held as soon as a time can be found for it and several new offices will be created. What are you going to do about it? Remember we need the money to get through the year with and we need your friendly co-operation and interest to insure the success of the Weekly next year. Show your college spirit and pay your debts.

Prof Adams at (Greenroom Club rehearsal): Now, go right up and fall on his neck!

Miss B (laying her hand gingerly on Pum's shoulder): How's that, Professor?

Prof Adams: Oh, nonsense! Give him a stage hug

Pum: But, Professor she don't know what a stage hug is

Adams (briskly): Well, then give him the kind you are familiar, with



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CLASS AND SOCIETY

All About the Organizations that You are Interested In—What They are Doing.

ZETA ZIGMA

The last spring term was started off in good shape, with Harry Helmer in the chair, last Monday evening. The inaugural address made up mostly of new recommendations of the society, for future use, showed much thought, as well as good understanding of the present needs of the society. They were well taken and will doubtless be enforced in the partial revision of the constitution which will take place very soon. In conjunction with Phi Phi Alpha, Zeta Zigma wishes to arrive at some peaceable plan where by the unpleasant rush for men may be avoided in the fall. A committee from each society is now working upon the proposition. It is more desirable that the incoming freshman have his membership in the two societies to look forward to as an honor, and not get the idea that he is quite a fellow and both societies are on their knees to him.

This criticism was made on the Almanian by an old student, "You publish too many jokes and grinds, puns and hints about the students now at the college. We do not know who they are, we are not interested in them particularly, why not devote that space to something else." Well and good why then can not the present students say, "You publish too much Almanian news. Now there is a column and a half telling where so & so of '98 is located and saying how well so & so of '94 is doing in his pastorate." I do not know who they are. I am interested in them particularly why not devote the space to something else." All well and good. I think we appreciate the difficulty.

The paper is published each week with an earnest desire to please all parties, we want the live news, the latest happenings; the student will read it, we want the Almanian doings the very latest; the old grads will read it, we want the athletic doings, the debating news.

SENIOR.

Last Friday evening the Seniors were delightfully entertained at the home of Misses Helen and Edith Cook at an informal party. Miss Esther Bruske and Mr. Robert Pierson, a Yale senior, and a brother of Miss Ruth Pierson, were also present. For entertainment various contests were participated in for which prizes were given. Hal won first honors while Mr. Pierson distinguished himself by gaining the "booby" prize. After the entertainment refreshments were served, college songs were sung, and when it came time to depart the party was proclaimed the most enjoyable one of the year.

The Y. W. C. A. held a most interesting intercollegiate meeting Sunday afternoon. Delegates were invited from Albion, Olivet and Ypsilanti Normal, however the delegate from Olivet, Miss Pearle Williams, was the only one of the three able to be pres-

ent. Letters from the other two delegates were read. Miss Mary L. Allen former Dean at Wright Hall and now at the head of the Association work in Milwaukee, Miss Louise Strange, '05 at present under Miss Allen in Milwaukee; Miss Katherine M. Inglis, former instructor in French wrote very encouraging and interesting letters for the meeting.

A Y. M. C. A. stunt party was held in the Association Room last Saturday evening a 8:30. Various musical, athletic and intellectual feats were displayed to the co-eds who were each present with 'a cup and five cents.'

ALUMNI TALK.

Maurice Grigsby, '98, now pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Paw Paw, Michigan, has just received a call to the pastorate of the First Presbyterian Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan. Rev. Grigsby is one of Alma's most brilliant graduates, giving the utmost satisfaction in his present charge, and he will beyond any doubt be successful in his city work

Mr. Fred Welch, a former Alma student visited Alma last Saturday and Sunday. While in Alma as a student Mr. Welch held the intercollegiate gold medal, for wrestling in the light-weight class. Last term he won the welterweight championship of the University of Michigan where he is studying at present.

Mr. Paul Delevan who did special work at Alma last year in chemistry and mathematics, is spending his spring vacation from the University of Michigan at Alma.

Mr. Will S. Cooper, '06, who recently graduated from Johns Hopkin University and is now at his home in Detroit, is expected to visit Alma this month.

* * * * *

Does this remind you of anything? Subscription Department.

BALL GAME

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CAMPUS GOSSIP.

Miss Ruth Pierson is entertaining her brother from Yale University this week.

Miss Marion Downey visited at her home in Elsie last week.

The canoeing season is close by. Breakfast up the Pine will soon be in order.

What's that you said about Church's woods?

The debating teams that are to meet Olivet's two teams on the evening of May 1st are working overtime in order to get in the best possible condition for the big contest. Tuesday evening they met in the Kindergarten room and clashed before a committee of the faculty.

Someone has said that it is a painful sight to see a deaf and dumb man hit his thumb with a hammer while trying to drive a nail. It's nowhere near so distressing however, as Prof. Michell's expression in History IV when after trying in vain for a week to get Graves to recite he fixes the victim with his eye and says, "Please, elucidate, Mr. CRAIG."

Wonder if we can't manifest a little more enthusiasm at the games? Every little bit added to what we've got makes just a little more!

Graves has painted his canoe! Now for conquests!

Listen for the lawn mower on the campus. Spring's coming, truly!

What do you know about those new bleachers? Just right, yes?

Remember the Artists' Recital Friday evening, April 24.

Mr. Floyd's Rix's brother is visiting him at Pioneer Hall.

Since the last election it has been ascertained by the statisticians of the college that after May 1st Alma will be the only college in the state located in local option or "dry" territory. Although Alma is remarkably free from students addicted to "booze" yet the fact that the college will be the only one located in a "dry" county should be considerable of a drawing card next year.

The track work, is calling McComb out for sprints, followed by Bradfield and Chapel, who is making a trial of the hurdles. Sayles and Marsh have been working on the long runs. When the track is completed other men will be sent through their paces.

Much comment has been recently aroused over the following bit of news which appeared in the Albion College Pleiad: "On the death of an Ann Arbor friend of the College recently, Albion falls heir to property in the city of Detroit. The College does not come into immediate possession of the property, it being held in trust by relatives for a number of years. At the end of this time, however it is to be shared equally by Albion and Alma, both colleges being certain of receiving a substantial amount."

BREAKFAST TABLE HASH

By Willie Guest

(By way of introduction let Me say you must beware, Do not construe a thing you get To hit one anywhere.)

Sitting down at Gloyd's place Too full to take a breath: From a co-ed on a nearby stool; "At Wright Hall we're board to death."

Explanation:—

Little drops of luncheon hash With the table talk Makes the inmates awful sick And the fellows walk.

Our poet Pum has fixed his boat And put it in the river;

You better hide your pillows now. You know he's mighty clever.

Chorus:—

Big canoe and pillows
Lots of ready wit
Makes Pum quite the hero
In the spring he's "it"

The word came round the campus 'Twas heard by more than ten That the senior H. N. M— Was decidedly Allen

Chorus:—

Lovers in the corners
Stiddies on the stairs
Makes Miss Margaret anxious
For they are her special care

Went to hear the Almaroons,
With girl, the best could find;
Couldn't get her through the door.
Here's why I changed my mind

Chorus:—

Manmoth pile of flowers,
On a tea chest mat
Makes a girl contented
With a Merry Widow hat.

Peggy sits alone in chapel
Most five minutes every day
But pretty soon old Hal comes in
And starts to making hay

Chorus:—

Girl down at Parma
Another faraway
Hal says it doesn't harm 'er
Keeps on making hay

Our instructor J. Q. Adams
A labourer has hired
To make his little flower bed
Good sooth, he is so tired.

Chorus:—

Pointing with his fingers
Standing on his toes,
Waving both his arms
And gesturing with his nose.

Cobb says that this will be enough
To fill the vacant space;
Oh! would that you who criticize
Had to fill it in my place

Chorus:—

Used the midnight current
Just to write a rhyme
But I'll be confounded
If I will another time.

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