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THIS ISSUE IS INDEXED CORRECTLY

The Weekly Almanian.

VOL. II, NO. 14.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 1908.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL WORK

A Brief History of the Work Alma
Has Been Doing.

CONSCIENTIOUS MEN NEEDED

This Department of Y. M. C. A. Work Should
Be Strengthened.

Everybody, and everything for that matter, has its off year. Whether there can be such a thing as an "off year" in Sunday school work might be justly questioned. There surely ought not to be, at least. Yet the writer of the following article is quite certain that there is. Such a work as has been done, by the students carrying on Sunday schools out among the country districts certainly ought not to lag and it is for the purpose of creating more interest in the work and bringing it up to its former standard that this appeal is published.

Although there are many departments of the Y. M. C. A. that require the best efforts of conscientious men, especially at present none need men more badly, or is more deserving of help than the Sunday school department. All the other branches of the Y. M. C. A. are in a comparatively flourishing condition, the men are interested and are working, but the Sunday school seems to have been forgotten.

The Sunday school work now carried on for several years had its beginning with a number of the students who upon going through the country realized how badly such an institution was needed. A meeting was called and a committee appointed to start the work. Two schools were put in operation almost immediately and although the progress was slow, yet the attendance gradually increased until a strong interest in the work became apparent. The county granted the committee permission to use the district school houses as well as furnishing the fuel to heat the buildings. At first the equipment was poor, but now every school has an organ and hymnals. The work gradually grew till last year eight active, wide-awake schools were in operation. It is difficult for one not acquainted with the work to fully realize the importance

Continued on page four.



The First One.

In Miss Northon, whose cut appears above Alma lays claim to the first daughter of an Alumnus ever in attendance at the college. Her father, Jos. T. Northon, graduated from Alma in '96, and is superintendent of schools in Farwell, Mich. Miss Northon entered last fall with the class of '12 and expects to finish her four years at Alma.

Of course it is only natural that children of Alumni shall attend the school of the parents, but it is because of this being the first instance at Alma that attention is called to it. Undoubtedly every year from now on this will be a common oc-

currence, but it so happens Miss Northon is the first. In that she can claim to be distinctly alone. From time to time we hear of children of Alumni whose parents are planning courses for them at Alma. And why not? As time goes on Alma will draw more and more students from this fact every year. Many other colleges depend largely upon this very fact for the majority of their enrollment. Alma is a comparatively young institution, but now that we are started, and Miss Northon heads the list, sons and daughters of Alumni will come pouring in every year.

A NEW YEAR SPASM.

Sort of A Cross Between Walt Whitman and Robert Browning.

Come to us New Year, splendid with promise,
Yet as a herald he sends forth a call,
Bids us take heed lest in our mad rush for riches,
What we most prize will be lost to us all.
More time for real dreaming a bit of real living,
All that is offered is not made of Gold,
(Yet we are following Gods of our making,
Like the calf of the Isarelites builded of old.)
Where is the love that men owe to their brothers?
What of a kindness to anyone wrong?
And to the meek, knocked down in the scramble,
Will assistance be given by those who are strong?
Go to that treasury of things immaterial,
Learn of the richness that never is seen,
Fashion a life as the maker intended,
Free and not blinded by mere golden sheen.

Come to us now, in the strength of our union,
When we rejoice in the wealth of our day.
New Year again with its promise of riches,
Harvests abundant and prosperity.
New comforts brings to us, offers us luxuries,
Till we are boasting, the power of our land.
Never before this has fortune so favored men,
Never has strewn with so lavish a hand.
Jews, Greeks, or Latins, most favored of ancients,
Though they in time possessed honor and power,

(Continued on fourth page)

PROSPECTS BRIGHT

For a Fair Share of the Basket Ball
Games Coming Our Way.

VONTHURN FOOT BALL CAPTAIN.

A Prediction Or Two In A General Way Con-
cerning Basket Ball, Base Ball and Track

News of the election of the football captain of the Alma varsity team for 1909 reached our paper too late for recognition last issue, but it is with pleasure that we announce that Ralph O. Von Thurn of Alma was the choice of the team for its leader for next year.

Von Thurn, though a freshman, has been at Alma four years, as he is a graduate of the preparatory department, and has been conspicuous as an athlete for several years having competed for Alma as a middle weight wrestler before "preps" were barred from M.I.A.A. athletics. He has been the mainstay of the second team for the past two years. He has just completed a very successful season at left tackle and has shown himself to be the logical man for the captaincy by his gameness, grit, football ability and manliness. For most of the past season he was handicapped by a sprained wrist, yet was in every play himself as well as always urging his team mates to their best efforts.

We expect large things of Capt. Von Thurn and his team next year and believe we will not be disappointed as most of the men will be back. Ex Capt. Chapel being the only man we will loose and there are a number of preps who will be eligible next year, who will make good material on the varsity team.

The past week has been a strenuous one for the basket ball squad. The object of the practice being to get up endurance with which the team hopes to run away with its opponents. Special preparation is being made for the Mt. Pleasant Normal game this coming Friday at Mt. Pleasant and the Adrian College game here on the following Tuesday.

Capt. Fraker, Phillips and Kefgen have been out of the practice most of the week owing to sprained ankles and knees but Saturday the team was again intact except for Capt. Fraker, during whose absence

(Continued on page four.)

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To the High Schools.

Of the sixty odd high schools that the college is sending the Almanian but one sends their publication to Alma. True, that many of the schools in the smaller towns have no publication. True also that as a rule High Schools and colleges seldom exchange. However, the Almanian would be more than glad to be put on the mailing list of any High School receiving the Almanian. In this way we can learn something of you as you are from week to week learning about us. We rather hate to force our wonderful happenings upon you without learning in turn about some of your equally wonderful exploits. Let us hear from you, send us your publications, daily, weekly, monthly or whatever they may be, and let us become better acquainted.

ALUMNI.

Miss Daisy S. Hard '01 was recently elected county superintendent of schools in the state of Washington, Stevens county.

The second sketch of Alma men "making good" promised a few weeks back is a fact or two concerning Mr. H. S. Babcock of Harbor Springs who entered Alma College with the first class in 1887 and remained until 1890. He completed a normal course, which in those days was one of the courses of the college.

Upon completion of his course he returned to Harbor Springs and began the publication of the "Harbor Springs Graphic". In addition to his duties as manager and editor, he has for ten years filled the position of county school commissioner for Emmet county.

In the year 1891 he was united in marriage to Miss Ura M. Hatho-

way, also one of Alma's Normal course graduates. Thus early in her history did Alma adopt the Apostolic method of sending out its workers two by two. Three sons and one daughter now grace their home and a complete college course at Alma is being planned for each of them. Mr. and Mrs. Babcock will send a young man to Alma next year, one that has been a protege of theirs for the past five years.

Swipe Notes.

Mr. Tibbet phones:
Ting-a-ling-ling-ling—Hello, is this central? I want number 52. Say, ring 'em again they sure is some one there. Yes, got 'em. Hello, is this the Wright Hall? Does Mr. McComb stay there? Which one? Why—'er—pretty good looking fellow? Frank? Yes, I guess that's the name. You'll call him, eh? All right I'll keep the phone. Hello! Is this Mr. McComb? Well, be you the fellow what sells them pictures they call telescope views? Your brother? Kin I see him then? I'll wait right here. Hello! Yes, I'm John Tibbet. I live out on the road to Shepherd about a mile and a half. You was out our way peddlin' pictures three or four months ago, and hev you got any of them left? Got a fine stock have yeh? Well, how much be they? The regular price is \$2.00 a dozen, and you offered them to her at a quarter off? Yes—yes—Seems to me my wife, Mary, did say somethin' 'bout that. We didn't buy none when you was here but you know Mary, she's a 'goin' to hev a birthday pretty soon. Well, you see, me and Mary we talked it over and I told her seems how this was her forty-fifth birthday and bein' as crops is pretty middlin' good this year I wanted to get her something she like. And she allowed how she'd been a wantin' some o' them there pictures of your'n. Be you a comin' out this way again fore long? Yes, I'll be home this afternoon 'bout all day. What time? Between 4 and 6. Well, come if you kin, cause you see Mary and me is a goin' a visitin' the first of next week, and she wants to get them pictures before we go. We want to get a good bunch all right. We'll be here, and say, bring me one of them glass things you look thru—one o' the best ones. Got two hev you all right. You know wher I live don't you. Yes, the white house on the right hand of the road agoin' north, and Mary says to tell you to stay to supper.

Good bye—good bye. McComb Say fellows, did you ever have any money handed to you. Why, that's just like picking it off the wall, and he wants one of the best scopes, to.

McComb pulling into town about 9 o'clock Saturday evening.

Monologue—Not a white house out there, and besides nobody by that name. I was sure he said out on the Shepherd road. Maybe he'll call up again, anyhow I needed the exercise.

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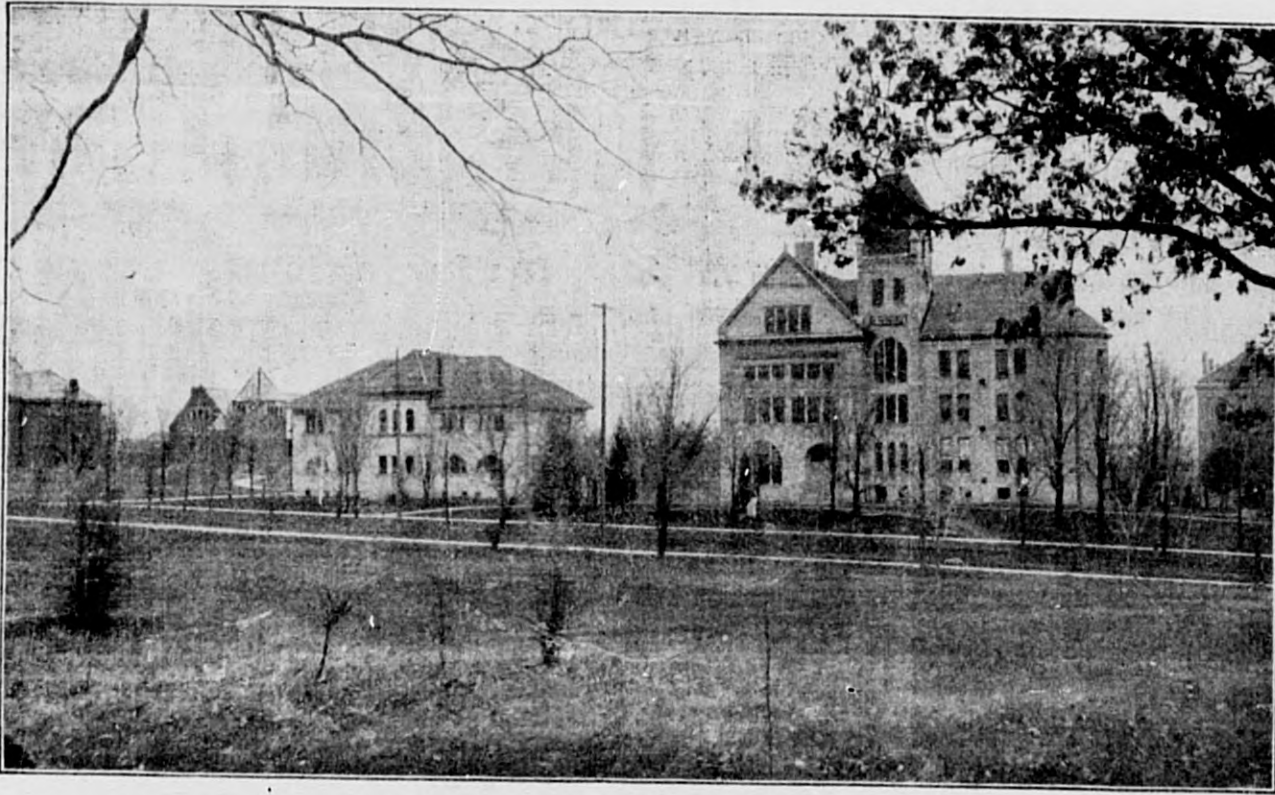
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General View of Campus.—"Oh, bring back again to me those good old college days."



A Line From "Big Steve."

I received my paper last night and read it this morning and was pleased beyond expression to see the result of the basket ball game with Mt. Pleasant. Gee! But that made me feel just as I did a year ago when we beat them so badly at Alma. I wish I could be there for base ball in the spring. How are prospects for a good team? I also see that John Dunham has been winning laurels to his honor. Give my regards to the fellows.

Sincerely yours,
STEPHEN B. HILL.

Vaudeville Coming!

For some years the fellows have met together with astounding regularity and debated how to raise the necessary where-with-all to give the Y. M. C. A. room a new dress. It needs paper, pictures and furniture. If rumor is not mistaken the Ides of March are come. At least it has been decreed that a real live entertainment, an up-to-date vaudeville, a la student production will be given, and given right speedily in the college chapel. Possibly the exact evening has not yet been booked but a special car load of scenery has already arrived and a few boxes of costumes are upon the road. Save your pennies and come, but don't flirt with the chorus girls. Admission not more than a quarter or less than twenty-five cents.

Something for 'll.

I must confess I take consider-

able pride in the showing the II's are making this year. Have you ever heard of the "true patriot" who "left his country for his country's good?" My class loyalty runs just as high. With best wishes for the II's, for the Almanian, and for old Alma in every phase of her activity, I am,

Very sincerely,
"RABL."

CAMPUS NOTES

The vanity of those waiters is really running to seed. Not being satisfied with "lining up" Sunday morning they now display themselves in a self-satisfied row at every meal. Why not line up between courses, too.

Tune—Harrington—That's me.
Soon is the time,
When we'll all sing this little rhyme,
Flunk—again—
That's me.

Most everybody has had a skate on of late.

The juniors held a farewell supper for Mr. Allan MacFadden, at the Tea Cup Inn Tuesday evening. Mr. MacFadden will be located at Grand Rapids and takes with him best wishes for success from his many Alma friends.

The student body was again "edified" and instructed by a Web-

ster Day, taking the place of the chapel exercises. That great orator and preserver of the union was brought to our attention by two able papers and one of his declamations. Miss Bond presented in an interesting manner extracts from some of his speeches. His ability as a statesman was handled by Mr. Whittemore, who was a trifle pessimistic of Webster's greatness in this line. Mr. Nelson dwelt with him as a lawyer in an exceedingly interesting paper.

The next number of the lecture course will be Thursday in place of Friday as scheduled. Spousin' you had made two dates? Horrors!

Oh Slush!

I knew a girl—a peach of a girl,
As sweet as she could be,
Who all the time—thru storm and shine,
Was mighty nice to me.

I knew a girl—a peach of a girl,
With eyes of brownish hue,
Who all the time—thru storm and shine,
Was loyal, kind and true.

I know a girl—a peach of a girl,
Whose like you never knew,
Who all the time—thru storm and shine,
I've loved, sweetheart, its you.
Archibald.



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SUNDAY SCHOOL WORK.

(Continued from first page.)

of it. Nearly four hundred students are on the rolls and the majority of these have no other opportunity of attending church services—if the simple little talk by a student perched upon the back of a seat—can be called a service. Here in a way, conspicuous perhaps for its simplicity, the little tots, and some big ones too, became acquainted with the loving Savior and learn to love him, as he loved them and finally accept him. The Westminster quarterlies are used, but seldom are they even looked at, except during the brief hour allowed for the lesson. More often the text is read by the teacher and discussed in turn.

Often socials of one kind or another are indulged in and in this way many come to learn of the Sunday school and its work. All holidays are commemorated by exercises and last year on children's day a collection of about twenty dollars was taken up and sent to the Beulah Home.

Progress has been great and the influence far reaching, but for some reason the Sunday school work this year is at a standstill. Of the eight schools in operation last year only two are running. What is the trouble? Does it lie with the people in the rural districts or with those responsible for the work? Hardly the former because repeated requests have come in for more teachers. Perhaps the far-famed Alma spirit in this regard is failing. Perhaps we don't stop to consider that for years men have labored earnestly to start and maintain these schools. They have brought the schools up to a condition where to keep them running is easy to what they have done. They left them only when their college course was finished, or their sphere of usefulness enlarged so that they were of more service in other fields. Will we refuse to take up the burden they have laid down? Does Alma want the splendid and Christlike work to sink into oblivion? Men are needed badly and at once—not necessarily ministerial students, but others as well. We are all alike our Brother's keeper. Let us come to the rescue of the honor of old Alma and let us prove that the old spirit still and always will exist. Let us do something for others and let us act quickly.

PROSPECTS ARE BRIGHT.

(Continued from first page.)

Kefgen has been playing right forward. In the game Saturday against the second team the varsity scored 76 points against 11 for the opponents, which speaks well for team play and scoring ability. Hooper continues to improve at

A NEW YEAR SPASM.

(Continued from first page.)

Were not so blessed as our own America,
Were but the soil of this lotis flower.
Nations before us have toiled up the pathway,
Risen from dark to a glorious light.
Blinded they've been by Gold Gods they fashioned,
And were then blotted out by an eternal night.

guard and will give a hard run for the place and at least will make a most valuable substitute. He and Phillips have been working together in midseason style and ought to keep their opponents to a comparatively low score. Hoben has been keeping up his good work and with a little more team play ought to star against any of the teams on the schedule.

The men trying for places on the second team are T. Chapel, E. Brown center; R. Clark L. Von Tnurn, Hole, guards; Ewing, Graham, and H. Brown, forwards. Several games have been scheduled for this team and will be an incentive for hard work.

The schedule at present for the varsity is as follows:—

Jan. 22 Mt. Pleasant at Mt. Pleasant
" 26 Adrian College at Alma
" 29 Open.

Feb. 6 Mt. Pleasant at Mt. Pleasant
" 13 Olivet at Alma.
" 19 Cadillac Y.M.C.A. at Cadillac
" 26 M. A. C. at Alma.

We beg to differ with Ypsilanti reporters for the state papers in regard to Alma cancelling a basketball game with them. No game at present could be arranged owing to conflict in dates. Several dates have been suggested by both managers, but as yet no agreement can be made though negotiations have not stopped. Alma is very anxious for a game with the Ypsilanti Normals as there is the best of spirit between the two institutions and all their contests in all sports have been evenly and spiritedly fought, and Alma has always received the best of treatment at their grounds.

Coach Carrithers has been at work with some of the track men in the gymnasium since the holidays and shortly expects to have indoor practice for the baseball men under full swing. Present indications are that Alma will have a very strong track team and new material for the baseball team appears regularly, so by the time outdoor practice commences there will be about thirty men trying for places. Of last year's team only "Johnny" Johnson, pitcher; Hoben, catcher; Campbell, catcher and fielder; Phillips, infielder are back, but plenty of new material will make competition keen.

Alma hopes to again capture the M. I. A. A. base ball championship, and thus retain the cup, as having captured it for two consecutive years. This has never yet been done.

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