

The Weekly Almanian.

VOL. III, NO. 14.

TUESDAY, JAN. 11, 1910.

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ROCHESTER CON

World's Sixth Quadrennial Gathering
an Immense Affair

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Countries

"Rochester besieged by 5,000 students," "Rochester taken by students," are but some of the headlines that told of the recent session of the Student Volunteer Movement. Rochester, the home of Finney, the great evangelist, threw its doors wide open and welcomed the thousands of students with out stretched arms. That city of churches gave \$10,000 to entertain the delegates. This act is indicative of the interest that commercial and corporate bodies are taking in the work of the Volunteer Movement. Not in the organization itself, but in the work which its watchword "The Evangelization of the World in this Generation" expresses in decisive terms.

If only the whole student body of America could have attended this convention what an inspiration might have been gained.

The life purpose of many a student was changed while in Rochester. What can I do to help evangelize the world? What is my duty? are questions that thousands prayerfully sought the answer of. The three sessions daily meant seven hours of listening to missionary addresses and appeals. Did the interest of the delegates wane? Not at all. The spirit of the thousand or more who would begin to collect almost an hour before the doors were opened betokens their enthusiastic interest. The ensuing hour would be spent in the singing familiar hymns. Yes, the students of the world are alive to the fact that if the movement's watchword is to be realized they must be largely responsible for its accomplishment.

That students in Alma and elsewhere may realize that the present generation spans a crucial period in the history of the world, we reproduce in part the speech of no less a personage than Ambassador Bryce that eminent interpreter of

social and economic principles:

James Bryce, ambassador of Great Britain to the United States spoke at the evening meeting in Convention Hall. The place was thronged and some time before the hour set for the beginning of the meeting it became necessary to prohibit further ingress. Ambassador Bryce said:

"You, assembled here as delegates represent the united spirit and impulse of hundreds of universities and colleges, not competing with one another in trials of strength and skill, but banded together for a noble cause. As thoughtful men and earnest men, you have felt the need and heard the call to help in spreading the message of the gospel. You recognize that it is a reproach to the children of those races that received Christianity many centuries ago that nearly two thousand years after our Lord's coming many

ing their hold on the minds and hearts of the old peoples, and before many years have passed, little may remain of the weaker among them except some superstitions usages of scanty meaning and forgotten origin. Others may be strong enough to last longer, yet will be disintegrated. Our western civilization, borne on the wings of modern science, is shattering the ancient ways of life, breaking up the tribes, extinguishing the custom the traditions, the beliefs, the morality, such as it was, of these peoples.

"The customs were often bad and immoral, yet some of the old customs and beliefs had a good influence on conduct. They held society together by ties other than those of force; they inculcated some virtues, hospitality, good faith to one another, compassion toward the helpless.

A Tour Through Greece

A lecture by Prof. Cooley, formerly of Harvard University, and one of the best authorities on his subject in the United States. Magnificent stereopticon views will make this lecture the best of its kind ever given in Alma.

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parts of the earth, many millions of mankind, should still remain in the ancient darkness. So you are engaged in a great effort to secure that within this generation the true light shall be carried forth into all lands.

"The moment is a critical one, and it is also an auspicious one. Since the discovery of the new world more than four centuries ago there has never been a time of such change and advance in the exploration and development of this globe of ours. The process which moved slowly in the sixteenth century has laterly moved so quickly that now nine-tenths of the habitable earth is under the control of so-called Christian powers and though vast multitudes remain non-Christian there is scarcely one spot in which the influence of the white race is not felt and in which the uncivilized or semi-civilized native peoples are not being penetrated by the ideas and habits of those more advanced nations.

"The old religions are shaken; they are crumbling, they are los-

"Is not this the time when, having destroyed those old beliefs by which these races have lived, we of the Christian nations should give them that which will fill the void that we have been making? Our material civilization is rooting out the old ways of life, let us implant it at once, before the instinct which made these peoples feel that there was a Higher Power above them, as an instinct discernible even in the lower races, has faded from their minds. Would it not be a calamity for them if their life came to a purely material one, the sense of reverence and the wish to worship having wholly died out of their souls? And are not we, whose conquering march had destroyed the old customs and beliefs of the backward race, responsible for their future and bound to turn to account for their good the changes we have wrought?"

"This process of destruction is not all that the white races have done to the uncivilized. There has often been something worse.

(continued on page 3.)

ALMA--MT. PLEASANT

First Basket Ball Game of the Season
was a Close Fight

A VICTORY FOR ALMA

Both Teams Played a Good Game—Alma's
Team Excelling in Speed and
Team Work

Alma played her first scheduled game of this season, last Saturday, with the Mt. Pleasant Normals and won it.

The normals played six games during the Christmas vacation and were in good condition. The College team had not played together before vacation and only three games since that time. Moreover Capt. Koepfgen had a badly sprained wrist and there was little fear at this end of the track as to the possible results. The Normal men were much heavier than ours but not so speedy, nor did their team play compare with that of their opponents.

The ball was near Alma's basket fully two thirds of the time and the only reason they did not run up a much larger score was the lack of practice since Dec. 20, and Koepfgen's lame wrist which caused him to miss a number of baskets which he could have thrown with his eyes shut under normal conditions.

On Feb 11 a return game will be played up the track on one of the best floors in Michigan. Alma has not beaten the Normals in four years on the latter's floor so every effort will be put forth this year to make a better showing than we have previously. The Normal men are fine fellows to play with and we look forward to the coming game with pleasure.

Coach Helmer of Mt. Pleasant was referee and was fully satisfactory to both sides. "Hall" has played so long at Alma that we all know he is a man to be relied on under any condition.

The line up.

ALMA		MT. PLEASANT
Capt Koepfgen	c	Burnham
Campbell	r g	Dickerson
Phillips	l g	Capt Crawford
Fraker	r g	Huliban
		Richards
Hooper	l f	Kenney
Field goals, Koepfgen 2, Campbell 1, Phillips 3, Hooper 4, Fraker 2.		

Continued on page three.

The Weekly Almanian

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ALMA RECORD PRESS

TODAY

So here hath been dawning another blue day;

Think, wilt thou let it slip useless away?

Out of eternity this day is born:
Into eternity at night will return.
Behold it aforesaid no eye ever did;
So soon it forever from all eyes is hid.

Here hath been dawning another blue day;

Think, wilt though let it slip useless away?

—Thomas Carlyle

Last year we dreamed of the things we would do this year; the books we would read, the letters we would write, strong words of cheer we would speak, habits we would form, habits we would free ourselves from and a host of things, all worthy of life's best effort.

And now the new year is here. However great may have been our dreams about the opportunities it would bring, they surely were no greater than the actual opportunities confronting us each day. Out of the unknown they come, swiftly and unexpectedly, pause before us for but a moment, and then, improved or unimproved, pass swiftly and quietly again to the unknown.

Is this year, for which we longed so earnestly, to be all we dreamed it would be, or merely a repetition of the past? The power of choosing is ours and we are held responsible for it.

ZETA SIGMA

The officers for the winter term are as follows:

President—Alex Duncanson, '10.
Vice President—Frank McComb, '10.

Secretary—Wade Frost, '12.
Treasurer—Leon Lauderbach, '12.
First Critic—Roy Campbell, '10.
Second Critic—Chas. Sebring, '12.
Janitor—Will Ewing, '13.

ALUMNI

On the afternoon of New Year's day upwards of 200 members and friends of the Woodward Avenue Presbyterian church gathered on the grounds of the new building to participate in an event that marks another step in the progress of Presbyterianism in Detroit. A leaden sky, a humid atmosphere and melting snow had no power to dampen the ardor of the happy company who were there with hearts full of gratitude for the past and hope for the future. Time was given to inspect the rooms of the basement which is now built to the level of the main floor and which affords every convenience of a modern church edifice. After an opening hymn elder Robert McKinnell read the Scripture and Dr. Wm. Bryant offered prayer. Mr. Richard Owen, chairman of the building committee, gave an address in which he reviewed the brief history of the church which in less than two years has a membership of 516. The building will cost when completed about \$100,000, of which \$25,000 is still to be raised. The congregation have done heroically because "the people have had a mind to work." They are building one of the finest and most thoroughly equipped houses of worship in the state and one of which all Presbyterians in the Synod may well be proud. They are building too for the future which is bright with promise. From all parts of the state people are moving to Detroit and the region of which the new church is a center is rapidly filling up and any church would be recreant to duty that would not grasp such a splendid opportunity and prepare to minister to the spiritual needs of incoming thousands. But the young congregation should not be left to do this work alone. It is an enterprise in which all the churches in the city should wish to share. Many individuals have already contributed liberally. Others will do likewise and all should give loyal support until the building crisis is over and the people are ensconced in a new building free from debt.

"At the close the masons brought the stone to its place and the pastor, Rev. S. I. Divine, in the name of the Triune God, pronounced the corner-stone to be well and truly laid. Rev. N. W. Cary offered the closing prayer and the pastor dismissed the congregation with the benediction.—Mich Presbyterian.

This is of special interest to Alma people since Rev. S. L. Divine, pastor of the Woodward Avenue church is a graduate of Alma in the class of '98. Alma friends are congratulating him upon the great success that is crowning his efforts in the ministry.

VISITORS ON THE CAMPUS

M. L. Marshall '09, who is now in McCormick Theological Seminary

preached in the Immanuel Church of Saginaw, Jan. 5 and on his way back to Chicago stopped for a few hours in Alma.

Other members of the class of '09 in town during vacation were Maynard Cook, Emma Swigart, Lois Fraker and Harry Craig.

Raymond Swigart '04 was in Alma during his vacation.

Geo. Anderson of Omena spent several days with his brothers, Frank and Oscar at Pioneer Hall.

Ethel Sober spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Glass of this city.

Mabel Howard McMillan of Gwinn was on the campus for a short time.

Ethel Northon '12 will not return to school this year but will teach near Boyne City.

Rev. Geo. A. Hill 1900, who has been Pastor-Evangelist in Minot and Mouse River Presbyteries, North Dakota, for sometime, has received a unanimous call to the Drexel Park Presbyterian church of Chicago and has accepted it. This makes three Alma men filling Chicago pulpits, Van Page '97, McBride '04 and Hill 1900.

Among the Freshmen Misenar is the benedict; among the Sophs, Dad Sebring; among the Juniors it has been Drake and now they have another—Roy Phillips. Seniors its up to you!

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PROPRIETOR

ALMA -- MT. PLEASANT ROCHESTER CON.

Continued from page one.

Hulihan 4, Barnum 3, Crawford 1. Goals from fouls; Fraker 2 out of 4; Hulihan 5 out of 10. Alma awarded 1 point. Final score, Alma 27, Mt. Pleasant 23. Time 20 minute halves. Referee, Helmer.

FRESHMAN PARTY

A few days before Christmas vacation the Freshmen class once more assembled in the Gym. The occasion was not a celebration for what they didn't win, nor for what they didn't take, but for a general good time. It was a Children's Christmas Party and all were supposed to dress as infants should. Suitable games were played and presents not exceeding five cents in value, were given to each. These same presents varied from a small slate with Algebra written across it to a small set of blocks spelling Yonker. After this refreshments were served, but that did not satisfy the class and all who could went to Wright Hall for dinner where at special tables, "Mother Carman" managed her children nobly. Then Ross' faithful steeds were summoned and the class was whirled away to St. Louis, where their festivities were finished in a manner worthy of their ability.

ORATORICAL CONTEST

Monday, January 10, the Annual Women's Oratorical contest occurred in the College chapel. The following orations were given:

"A Plea for the Children" Agnes Redman.

"The American of Today," Mabel Reed.

"The Friend of the Friendless Boy," Pearl Huber.

"Joshua R. Giddings," Mrs. Laura Sebring.

"A Hero of the Far North," Nina Shoecraft.

Mrs. Sebring won the first place, and Miss Huber second. The winner of this contest will represent Alma in the State Contest at Lansing, Friday, March 4th.

SCIENCE CLUB

The regular meeting of the club was held last Saturday evening in the Biological laboratory and was well attended. The program consisted of a lecture by Prof. McCurdy, the subject being Niagra. Lantern slides were used to illustrate the talk which proved very interesting and valuable to everyone.

The next meeting of the club will occur on the 22 of January.

Remember the Men's Oratorical Contest, Thursday, Jan. 13, 7:30 p. m.

Continued from page one.

Instead of being merely left ignorant, the backward races have sometimes received impression of Christianity which it were far better for them not to have known. It has too often come to them as the religion of adventurers who, bearing the Christian name, have despoiled them or tricked them out of their lands, have exploited their mines, used their labor, have ruined them by strong drinks, have treated them sometimes with barbarity.

"Such rapacious men, of whom there have been too many in the new countries, men who are the foul scum on the advancing wave of civilization, undo and unteach by their lives what Christianity teaches by its precepts. It is hard to keep them out of the countries that are being explored or developed; but the presence of their untoward influences makes it doubly needful that there should be in all these lands a teaching of Christianity by other and better men whose lives bear witness to the truth.

"This is the moment when the Gospel should come to them both as a beneficent power, protecting them against oppression and as a religion which, while it gave them a higher and purer morality and a higher conception of divinity and of humanity, is also to lead them upward by friendly sympathy and try to bridge the chasm between them and their civilized rulers. They should learn to know Christianity as a gift of God to the world uniting all mankind. The Gospel is needed not only to give light to those who sit in darkness, but to create a bond of brotherhood between them and ourselves, teaching them that all are children of one Father. It is needed now, at this precious, this critical moment. Are we not responsible in God's sight for guiding and helping those whose fate we have taken in our hands?

"Though you all wish to help missions, you cannot all be missionaries; nor is it only by missions in foreign lands that the world is to be evangelized. I have spoken of the harm done by members of Christian nations who disregard the teaching of their religion. But apart from those more flagrant cases, the greatest hindrance to the spread of the Gospel abroad is the imperfect power which it exerts at home.

"I don't mean merely that there is all around us in the lowest parts of our cities a mass of practical

[Continued on page four]



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ROCHESTER CON.

Continued from page three.

heathendom. I am thinking rather of the contrast between the standard of Christian life the New Testament gives and which we all profess to accept, and the faint efforts we make to reach it. If you study the history of primitive Christianity and no study is more profitable than that of church history, you will be struck by two of the causes which greatly helped the spread of the Gospel in the ancient world. One was the impression made by the lives of the early Christians, by their purity, their honesty, their unworldliness, their love to one another. The other—less important, but real with the more educated men—was the beauty and loftiness of the Old Testament writings and particularly of the Psalms and the Prophets.

"Had the enthusiasm and devotion of the first ages continued the world would have been evangelized long ago. If you seek to evangelize it now in your own time; remember that each one of you is a missionary, be it for good or for evil. Each by his acts and words is spreading or retarding the power of the Gospel. 'None of us liveth to himself and his life is a witness to the fullness or to the hollowness of his faith.

"I have tried to point out that this age of ours is a time of necessity and of opportunity, a time when it is both more needful and more possible than perhaps ever before to send the light forth over the earth. But it is also a time of temptation. There has never been in English speaking countries an age which so drew men to the pursuit of wealth and enjoyment, because the chances were never so fully open to all, the means of winning wealth never so various and ample, the prizes never so glittering.

"In such a time as this it is hard for any young man of force and spirit not to feel the impulse to fling himself into the current. Many of those who do so are overmastered and swept away by the current and come to think that success and wealth with the power and fame which wealth brings are the chief aim and end in life.

"Nevertheless the old truth still remains. 'A man's wealth consist-

eth not in the abundance of the things that he possesseth.' 'What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?' No doubt the pleasure that success brings is a real pleasure and a legitimate pleasure. We are meant to make the most of such talents as we have received, and when a man achieves the success which gives him standing and influence in the community he becomes better able to help others and to promote good causes.

"It is not in the exertion to the utmost of one's powers that danger lies, but in valuing too much the earthly things that make the outside of life and in forgetting that success is admirable only as it is consecrated to noble purposes, that righteousness is the true riches, that the kingdom of heaven is within us.

"Surely there never was a time when we have all so much need to remember the warnings of our Lord against the love of money and of what money gives. Whoever resists these temptations and lives in the true Gospel spirit, whether he goes forth as a missionary or not, is bearing his part in the evangelization of the world and in helping to plant the kingdom of heaven on earth.

"Someone has said that the teaching of the saints and the great religious thinkers of the Middle Ages is summed up in a famous line of Dante. 'In sua voluntade a la nostra pace.' In His will, that is, the will of God, is our peace.

"It is indeed a sentence that has been full of strength and comfort to many, and it expresses one vital side of the Christian life. Contentment and obedience, faith and hope these which were so needed in the stormy days of the Middle Ages are still needed by us all.

"But there is also another sentence which rises to the mind of one who looks upon great assemblage of young men of our own strenuous race, young men full of zeal and energy, many of whom will go forth as evangelists over the world; and I repeat it to you with earnest hopes for the good which you will do, be it abroad or at home. It is a sentence of the first and greatest of all Christian missionaries, the apostle sent forth to the Gentile world, whose life of undaunted courage and untiring service bore witness to his faith.

"Wherefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord for as much as ye know that your labor is not vain in the Lord."

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