

The Weekly Almanian

VOL. III, NO. 20.

TUESDAY, MAR. 1, 1910.

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ASS'N OF NORTHWEST

Organization Of Alma Students Met
In Chicago.

PROF. J. T. EWING PRESENT

Ambrose B. Wight, Class Of '96, Serves As
Toastmaster.

It's always good weather when old Alma men get together and it seems there are very few places of importance in this whole country, or very few countries on the globe, in which an Alma student cannot be found. One of the most important centers of Alma College's constituency is Chicago. Over one hundred former students are living within a radius of fifty miles of that city and the potentialities for good to the college that lie in this group of active friends can hardly be overstated. In an effort to realize them the Alma College Association of the Northwest was formed some years ago and has since been holding annual meetings in the month of February. This year the meeting was held in Chicago, at Field's Tea Room, on Saturday, February 26, at one o'clock P. M. Owing to the unfavorable weather the attendance was only moderate, but the interest shown in the college by all was very gratifying. Ambrose B. Wight, '96, presided with his usual geniality, and called upon those present to report upon their activities in various lines since the last meeting. The responses were interesting and indicated that Almas students are doing well their share of the world's work.

After Prof. J. T. Ewing, who was present as the college representative, had given at some length a statement of the present status and prospects of the college, the association discussed plans for future action in behalf of their Alma Mater which, it is confidently expected, will assume tangible form in the near future.

The following persons were elected as officers of the Association for the coming year:

President—Ambrose B. Wight '96.

Vice President—H. H. Hatch.

Sec. & Treas.—Abram J. Van Page, '97.

THE BEACON-LIGHT FOR MEN

(The Oration which Hurd Allyn Drake, Alma's contestant, will deliver at M. A. C. Friday, March 4, in the Inter-Collegiate Oratorical Contest.)

Those questions which affect the nobler ideals of a people cannot long be restricted to a single field of thought. They soon become universal problems. Such a question I propose tonight, one which appeals primarily to the lofty ideals of ethics and religion, one that vitally affects the welfare of every man and nation, one no longer confined to the arguments of theologians, but a problem discussed at our universities, in our press, and, most important of all, at the fireside. That discussion is nothing less than "What is the purpose of the Bible?"

The centers of interest are our colleges and universities. In an address delivered to the students of our state university, Bishop Williams of the Protestant Episcopal diocese of Michigan advocated the development of the study of comparative religions at the university, saying that without it that institution cannot claim to give its students "an encyclopedic view of the field of human knowledge." On the other hand, Doctor Charles William Eliot has given expression to what he believes will be the ideal religion of the new century,—a religion without miracles and largely without authority. These two are not alone in expressing their opinions. Professor Earp, of Syracuse, Professor Patten of the University of Pennsylvania, Professor Giddings of Columbia, Professor Burton and Professor Mathews of the University of Chicago, President Schurman of Cornell, Professor Van Dyke of Princeton, and President Hadley of Yale,—all these are endeavoring to solve this great present-day problem. Equally interested are the students of our educational institutions. Never since the Reformation has there been such interest among scholars in matters of ethics and religion. Moreover, the secular press again and again refers to the same theme. The articles in *The American Magazine*, *Current Literature*, *The Literary Digest*, *The Independent*, *The Cosmopolitan*, and *The North American Review*, not to mention others, would alone stir the mental activity of even the most apathetic. And as for the fireside,—who will dare to deny that the subject of conversation in every intelligent home is what our great men and our magazines furnish us? The universal mind of the country is wrestling with the problem.

In the heat of the conflict many assaults have been made on the Bible. That this Treasure of our Mothers should be considered an ethical guide is ridiculed; that it should be considered divinely revealed is scorned. In the October number of the *Biblical World*, the editor calls attention to the "difficulties" to be encountered in using the Bible "as a compendium of moral precepts." "How shall we," he asks, "account for the fact that Old Testament heroes indulged in polygamy forbidden by our modern laws? How can we teach total abstinence from a Bible which represents Jesus as partaking of wine at feasts, and which even tells how he miraculously produced wine from water on one occasion when the supply fell short? How can a Christian gain an intelligent understanding of the issues at stake in the modern conflict between capital and labor, if he simply confine himself to a reading of the Bible? How can he gain defensible moral convictions concerning the ethics of child labor if he confine his attention to a literature which never dreamed of the possibility of modern factories and machinery?" Such questions fairly represent the attacks upon the ethical value of the Bible, while assaults on its claim to inspiration find expression in such statements as these: "It is unscientific and absurd to imagine that God ever turned stone-mason, and chiseled commandments on a rock;" and, "There can be no such thing on earth as a book written by God." Let us consider these objections in their order. In the first place, we maintain that the Scriptures are still the safe guide of moral conduct, for the Bible is a book of great principles, broad as human experience, deep as the seas of the soul,—vital principles enduring through ever-changing manners and customs. In failing to realize this, lie the difficulties, so-called, of the critical editor of the *Biblical World*. We rightly revere the memory of that exemplary patriot, that skilful general, that wise President, George Washington, and we draw inspiration from his life notwithstanding the fact that the Father of his Country held slaves, a practice which, in but two-thirds of a century, had become not only morally reprehensible but also positively illegal. And yet

(Continued on page two)

OUR RIVAL'S WIN

Maroon And Cream Fights Olivet To
The Last Ditch.

LOOSES BY ONLY FOUR POINTS

First Defeat Of The Season As The Result Of
Olivet's Hard, Rough Playing

On Saturday afternoon the Olivet basket ball team defeated Alma on our floor by a score of 26 to 22. This game was a hard fought contest from start to finish with many peculiar happenings throughout. From the time Dryer blew the whistle every player was determined to do his part for his Alma Mater. The local boys displayed brilliant team work which has been the bright spot in all the former games; but this was marred by the undeniable roughing of the visitors.

Alma scored the first basket of the game only to be soon equalled by Olivet. The see-saw process continued for some time, but Alma, spurred on by her royal rooters, pushed forward and held the lead for the remainder of the first half. When time was called for the first



HURD ALLYN DRAKE

half the score stood 14 to 11 in Alma's favor.

Rest seemed to have filled the visitors with surplus energy, which worked out in various forms of manifestations. Soon the score stood 17 to 17, then both teams gained a point on fouls. Then the visitors waxed warm and furious and forced time to be taken out for Campbell, Phillips and Koepfgen

(Continued on page three)

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OUR SECOND TEAM

On Friday afternoon the college second team defeated the Normal Reserves at Mt. Pleasant in a very spirited contest, the final score being 18 to 13. The victory was due to the consistent work of each man on the team. Von Thurn and "Ox" Edgerton guarded their men in fine shape, allowing their forwards to shoot only two baskets while "Von" scored four field baskets. Bill Ewing, McComb and Pohley played the forwards, while King kept the Normal's center busy. A return game will be played this week and every one should be out to win another victory for the college reserves.

A MUSICAL TREAT

We have a great many visitors at the halls, but not many turned entertainer as did Miss Lulu Allen, a former student, and Miss Wilson, who needs no better recommendation than the statement that she is a graduate of Vassar, and is Vesta Wilson's cousin. After lunch Sunday evening the fellows were invited into the reception room, to sing, as they supposed. But they were happily disappointed as their part in the program was no more than listening which they did. Miss Wilson sang half a dozen selections and was followed by Miss Allen who rendered several instrumental selections and one solo. Miss Blair whose voice is kept under a blanket most of the time, kindly consented to sing one Scotch song and we wish she would promise to repeat the act. And then came Miss Du Vries, without whose singing the program would have been incomplete.

It was the best Sunday evening we have seen around here for some time and the fellows are wondering why they can't have at least one

(Continued from page one.)

the editor asks how to account for the fact that "Old Testament heroes," heroes dead for thirty centuries, "indulged in polygamy forbidden by our modern laws." Whence came these modern laws if not from a more enlightened conception of the principles of home-life laid down in the Scriptures? Where is the "difficulty" in teaching total abstinence from a book, one of whose precepts is: "It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor (to do) anything whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak?" Thus against the use of strong drink, the Bible arrays the great principle of altruistic self-denial. The settlement of the conflict between capital and labor may be brought about by the right application of the Biblical principle of the brotherhood of man. It may be that the Bible is "a literature which never dreamed of the possibilities of modern factories and machinery," but the great Central Figure of the Bible did not hesitate, in spite of protest, to take a child to Himself, and make that one the ideal subject of His Kingdom. How can a book in which both precept and example teach the principles of the brotherhood of man and the universal fatherhood of God, fail to supply lofty ethical standards for the solution of the child labor problem? This "handbook of right living" everywhere contains vital principles that are directly applicable to the moral and social conduct of today.

But if the great principles of the Bible are ample proof of its ethical worth, how much more we are convinced that it is the Word of God when we consider the necessity for such a revelation, and the records, past and present, which tell of its spiritual worth.

Far back in prehistoric times, men, led forward by their instinctive hunger for the divine, began to grapple with the mysteries of the "volume of nature." And although these investigators were able to "pick out from amid the thick-crowded, hieroglyphic writing" some intelligible characters,

(Continued on page four.)

more like it before the middle of June.

THE YPSI GAME

is to be played Friday evening, March 4. It has been impossible to shift the date of the Ypsilanti Normal game to accommodate the Lansing excursionists; Mt. Pleasant being unable to change the date of their game with Ypsi as would have been necessary in order to change the Ypsi Alma date. Consequently the game will be played as scheduled on Friday evening of this week.

The Normalites will prove worthy opponents for our closing game of the season. They have been making a good record for themselves against Detroit and southern Michigan teams. They are large and fast, and the game promises to be as close and exciting as was the Olivet game of the past week.

It is hoped that every student remaining in Alma will be present Friday evening to see the final game of a hard and exciting season.

CLASSICAL CLUB

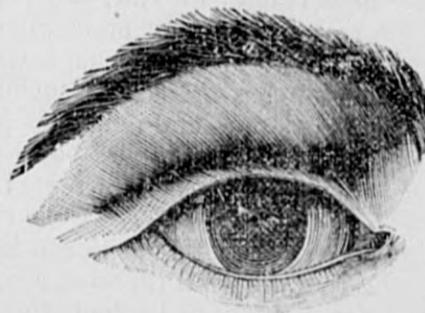
Friday evening, February 25, the Classical Club met in Wright Hall and gave the following program:

Dress Ornaments of the Greeks—
Della Caldwell.
Notes from Classical Journal—
Ralph Yonkers.
Haunts of the Greek Philosophers—
Robert Von Thurn.

Must Furnish Inducements.

A New York scientist who has made a study of longevity is responsible for the startling statement that man ought to live forever. At present there are not enough inducements to make everlasting life on earth desirable. The scientist must find a way of guaranteeing a living as well as life.

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OUR RIVALS WIN

(Continued from page 1)

by their undue roughing. Phillips was forced out of the game and Chapel went to guard Nachstein while Campbell played at the other forward for the remainder of the game. As the play started again all the rooters took the anxious seats. Olivet gained a basket, Alma threw a foul. This change in line-up was unable to stop the Congregationalists and the game ended in Olivet's favor, score being 26 to 22.

Olivet owes its victory primarily to the clean and brilliant work of Martin, who played right forward. He threw three field goals and put 8 out of 12 through the basket from the foul line. Rogers and Webber held down the guard positions in a creditable manner. Dana threw two field baskets, while Nachstein has three to his credit. Both of these players contributed a lion's share of the roughing for their team which constitutes 22 fouls.

Much credit is due our team for the clean, scrappy game they put up against their heavy opponents. Cook played a fine game at center and managed to keep Dana guessing for the ball a good share of the time. He threw two field baskets at critical periods during the game and played snappy ball throughout. Our two midgets, Fraker and Campbell, displayed good, consistent work, and as the former was handicapped by a sore knee he did not play his usual game. Phillip's passing and Koepfgen's clever work in intercepting long throws were greatly appreciated. At no time did our men lack courage or endurance but were game to the end, scrapping against odds they put up a fight worthy of our highest praise and admiration.

Dryer certainly was a square official who notices everything that happens on the floor. No college can find a more capable man than he for basket ball. He allows no parleying and gives energy to his decisions uttered distinctly in his German dialect.

On Friday night we play the Ypsilanti Normals here and we all look forward with much pleasure to give a happy greeting to the teachers. We defeated the normals in a close game last year, and as both teams have greatly improved a very interesting game is expected. As this is the last game of the season much interest will be shown and every student, instructor and lover of the game ought to be there to see our team make the glorious wind-up.

LINE UP

Alma	Olivet
Koepfgen (capt.) r. g.	Webber
Campbell } i. g.	Rogers
Chapel } c.	Dana
Cook	

Fraker	r. f.	Martin
Phillips		
Campbell }	i. f.	Nachstein

Field goals—Cook 2, Koepfgen 1, Phillips 1, Fraker 1, Campbell 1, Martin 3, Nachstein 3, Dana 2, Rogers 1. Fouls—Fraker 10 out of 22, Martin 8 out of 12.

Referee—Dryer of Saginaw.

Halves—20 minutes.

Final score—Alma 22, Olivet 26.

ALUMNI NOTES

That Alma College is well represented in Tecumseh was shown by the Presbyterian Men's Banquet held in that city February 22. President Bruske delivered the principal address of the evening, using as his subject "Our Country Rich in Memory," and was applauded to the echo. Field Secretary Hurst presided as toastmaster, and Rev. J. W. Dunning '04, pastor of the church, spoke upon the subject "What Is A Man?". The other Alma people present at the banquet were Margaret Morrison '08, Edna Brown '09, Ethel Springer '09, Percy Slayton ex '09, Fred Dickerson ex '12, Mrs. Anna M. Dunning ex '03, Mrs. Bertha Hurst '04, and F. D. Hammond who was a student in '91 and '92.

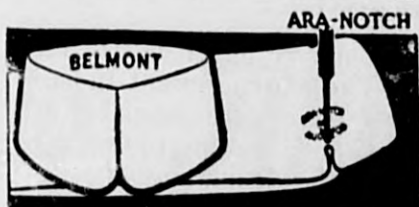
The annual banquet of Detroit Alumni and students of Alma College will be held in that city during the spring vacation. The date will be decided definitely at a meeting of the executive committee of the association in the next few days. The officers of the association are Pres., S. L. Divine '98; Vice Pres., Paul H. Bruske '98; and Sec'y, Mrs. Mary M. Wagner '01. With these officers in charge a grand time is assured to all who may attend.

Miss Ione Peacock ex '09, who is teaching in the Blissfield high school, is making a success of her work in the English department. Miss Peacock expects to make Alma a visit on her way to her home in Ewart, during the Easter vacation. Her many friends will welcome her return to the camps.

These are the sins I fain
Would have thee take away:
Malice and cold disdain,
Hot anger, sullen hate,
Scorn of the lowly, envy of the great,
And discontent that casts a shadow gray
On all the brightness of the common day.

Financial Problem.

"Make your outgo fit your income," said the millionaire. "But if you have so arranged matters that my income has been diverted to yourself?" continued the anxious inquirer. However the millionaire had no more advice to give.



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(Continued from page two.)

yet, even to the wisest, the book of nature never clearly revealed the all-pervading Divinity. The most ignorant Indian and the most learned Magian priest were alike incapable of passing "from nature up to nature's God." Failing to find the divine in nature, man next turned to the deductions of philosophy, and every step brought a clearer vision of the Great Light of Truth. Nevertheless, Socrates concluded, "You may despair of finding out a sufficient expedient for this purpose, if God, in His providence, do not send you some other instruction," and Plato summarized his whole efforts in the words, "The truth is, to determine or establish anything certain in these matters * * * is the work of God only." And after centuries of seeking, after Socrates and Plato and Aristotle had illumined the world, the most exalted human philosophy inscribed on an altar in the capital of learning the sad confession, "To the unknown God."

If, then, the light of nature is too uncertain, and the light of reason too dim to guide men to a true knowledge of God, it is evident that a revelation is necessary. This great essential is found in the Bible. There, though dimly at first, progressive revelation beams on, increasing in brilliancy as it dispels the mists of ignorance and misconception until both Testaments combine to point men to God. "Whence," we ask with the poet,

"Whence but from Heaven could men, unskilled in arts,
In several ages born, in several parts,
Weave such agreeing truths? or how or why
Should all conspire to cheat us with a lie?"

And yet the critics say that there is no such thing as a book written by God, and laugh to scorn the idea that the Ten Commandments are from God. Theirs is a negative philosophy. It leaves their own questions unanswered, and fails to furnish any solution for the life-problems of others.

The preservation of this guiding light is another valuable attestation of its divine source. In spite of the danger of subtle changes through repeated translations, and in spite of the assaults of persecution, we still have the Word of God. For the Bible, though read in hundreds of tongues, produces the same spiritual results among all peoples,—an indisputable proof that the especial care of Providence guards the Beacon-light which He has set up for the spiritual guidance of man. Nor are the attacks of the present by any means unique. Twenty-five centuries have passed since Jehoiakim, King of Judah, pricked to the heart by the message of Jeremiah, cut up the roll with the knife at his girdle and cast it into the fire. And his direct descendants include Porphyry in the third century; Julian in the fourth; Mohammed the Arab in the seventh; the materialistic Hobbes, and Spinoza the pantheist, in the seventeenth; the versatile Voltaire and the uncompromising Thomas Paine in the eighteenth; and the eloquent Robert Ingersoll in the nineteenth. But in spite of their shafts of argument, ridicule, sarcasm, coarse invective, and polished periods, the Book still stands unique in its triumph over its foes.

The greatest proof, however, that the Bible is the Word of God is found in its marvelous freshness and adaptability. For that light, whether shining in obscure chapels or in magnificent metropolitan churches, has ever directed the earnest seeker after truth to the source of the highest good. It is adapted to him who mourns and him whose heart is full of joy; to the down-trodden and oppressed and those that are free; to the waif in the alley and the millionaire in his palace; to the outcast of society and the mother in the home; to the farmer at the plow, the mechanic at the bench, the banker in the counting-room, the scientist in his laboratory, and the philosopher in his study. Its results may be seen in the reclaimed lives of individuals and in the ministrations of our great philanthropic institutions,—mute witnesses of its power to inspire to social service.

Nature and reason, as in ages past, still fail to make clear the way to God. But the Bible, reinterpreted in minor details though it may be, yet revitalized by being rethought, continues to be what for so many ages it has been,—the Beacon-light of men. That Book, inculcating universal principles which solve the most vital problems of the prophetic and the Messianic days and also of the twentieth century, inspired from the throne of God and revealing his love to man,—that Book of Books must endure, the permanent endowment of the race.

Tulips in the Cornfield.
There are more than 20 varieties of tulips to be found growing wild in the country about Florence, the earliest of these, a tall scarlet one with very handsome flowers, being generally found among the corn; later on there is a dainty, small, striped red and white one and various lovely yellows, in shades varying from pale lemon to a deep orange tint, with reflex petals. —"In a Tuscan Garden."


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