

# The Weekly Almanian

VOL. V, NO. 18.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1912

PER COPY 5 CENTS.

## PHI PHI BANQUET

Given At Wright House Friday Evening, February 9

## COLLEGE SPIRIT RAN HIGH

Lester von Thurn Toastmaster - Lars Hockstad of Olivet Speaks

On the evening of Friday, February 9, Phi Phi Alpha gave its annual Lincoln Banquet at the Wright House. At nine o'clock the members and guests took their places in the dining room, which was strikingly decorated with college and society pennants, banners and flowers. Landlord Parr served a seven-course dinner which was heartily enjoyed by the company. After the inner man had been satisfied, Toastmaster Lester Von Thurn, '13, took charge and with a few clever stories introduced Joseph L. Kennedy, representing the Freshman class, who in a snappy, eloquent speech discussed "Our Future." To Frank J. Anderson, '14, fell the pleasant duty of toasting "The Co-ed." In a few well chosen words he paid a glowing tribute to the girls of the school and the pleasant relations existing between Philomathean and Phi Phi Alpha. The next speaker was Lars Hockstad, '12, representing the Phi Alpha Pi of Olivet, who responded to the toast, "Our Fraternity." His sketch of the history of his society, its splendid record and the cordial relations existing between Olivet and Alma and Phi Phi Alpha and Phi Alpha Pi was beyond question one of the most appropriate and thoroughly enjoyable toasts which we have ever had the privilege of hearing. The "College Man" was responded to by Miss Carrie Neilson, '12, who in an entertaining manner told some splendid stories and had some very nice things to say about the "rah-rah boys." George J. Brillmyer, '13, showed himself perfectly capable of handling the subject "The Humor of Lincoln" in an appropriate and unique manner. William Y. Pohly, '12, gave an eloquent and stirring tribute to "Alma Mater" as a fitting climax to a splendid program.

Following the toasts Harold V. Wilcox, '14, read a number of telegrams from alumni who sent their greetings to members and guests at the banquet.

A striking feature of the affair was the spirit of loyalty to the college which permeated all of the toasts.

The banquet was one of the most thoroughly enjoyed society functions ever given by the society.

### Y. M. C. A.

The cabinet of the Y. M. C. A., during the past week put up a good membership campaign, with the result that the membership is now the largest that it has ever been in the history of the college. The association now has eighty-five members, which includes every college man, except one. A month ago a pamphlet was issued showing Alma as having second lowest percentage of membership of the colleges of the state, but she now ranks first and has broken all

**REMEMBER**  
**The Rainbow Kimona**  
will be presented by the  
**Alpha Theta Literary Society**  
in the **College Chapel**  
**Tuesday, February 20th**  
But don't tell anybody about it—  
**Just Come and Bring Your Friends**

previous records for membership, both in Alma and the other colleges, that is by percentage. State Secretary Johnson, in addressing the local association Wednesday evening said in substance, "you men of Alma college can feel proud and congratulate yourselves for your splendid work. You have passed from almost the lowest round of the state ladder to the very top." The financial condition is excellent and considerable fees have been given to the state work and missions. The membership since 1903 is as follows: 1903 50; 1904 78; 1905 60; 1906 55; 1907 64; 1908 64; 1909 55; 1910 53; 1911 55; 1912 85. Sixty-five men are now enrolled in weekly Bible study classes. The Sunday meetings are continually gaining in interest and attendance. It is hoped that the good work will continue.

### Y. W. C. A.

The report given by the Y. W. C. A. last Friday morning shows that the association is very strong this year. All girls in Wright Hall are members and the association has a larger percentage of membership than ever before. At present the association has seventy-three members. The state pledge is larger this year than ever. Membership from 1903 is as follows: 1903, 51; 1904, 57; 1905, 53; 1907, 43; 1908, 56; 1909, 66; 1910, 77; 1911, 79; 1912, 73. The Bible classes are exceptionally well attended.

For several years past reading for the Rest Room in Wright Hall has been provided largely from subscription by Alumnae and former students, who were interested in the work of the Y. W. C. A. during their attendance at Alma.

Contributions for the year 1911-12 have been received from the following:

Mrs. Kendall Brooks, '97, Miss Agnes Hope, '02; Mrs. T. B. Randall, '04; Mrs. P. Hazelton Torrel, '03; Miss Lois Fraker, '09; Miss Elsie Bond, '10; Miss Agnes Redman, '10; Miss Leora Johnston.

The association wish to express through the Almanian, their appreciation of the interest shown by those who have kindly contributed.

### SECOND OPENING RECEPTION.

The second semester opening reception was held at Wright Hall, Saturday evening, February 10.

Of course, it was a Leap Year party. Would you deprive the young

ladies of this one golden opportunity? Of course not. And didn't they make good use of their opportunity too?

The reception rooms were beautifully decorated: hearts, pennants and pillows. It seemed an enchanted place and might have been the undoing of the young men but for the placards which were placed conspicuously around the room. They attested as to what might be the intention of the young ladies and thus warned the more unwary of the young men. "Do unto the men as you would that they should do unto you," was the golden rule for the evening. And no young lady priding herself on her good manners, allowed a young man to remain standing while she occupied the only available space on a "stiddy bench." The benches are cold and hard anyway? But neither did she allow dark, sombre hued wallflowers to drape themselves on these same "stiddy benches" during a grand march. Programs were filled rapidly and everyone made happy. At least so it appeared. A goodly number of the college faculty were present and when not enjoying the antics with the students they formed an appreciative audience.

Refreshments were served and music furnished by the male quartette and Miss Clark.

Yes, the reception was a success.

## SPECIAL MEETINGS

Two Services Daily, Morning and Evening

## STATE SEC. JOHNSON PRESENT

President Bruske's Addresses Were Strong and Persuasive

The special meetings held by the faculty and students of the college during the week were a splendid success. They were exceptionally well attended and much interest was shown by all. There were two services each day. The chapel period was extended for the morning address and the afternoon services, which were held between 3:30 and 4:30 were more of the nature of a prayer-meeting. Monday morning the chapel services were conducted by Professor Cook, and Pres. Bruske gave a short address on the theme, "Run and Speak to that Young Man." The basic thought of his discourse being the necessity of becoming Christians. His appeal was strong and persuasive. The afternoon subject was, "Lord, What Would'st Thou Have me to Do." This meeting was led by Miss Carrie Rowland and she certainly started things with the right spirit.

Professor Ewing had charge of Chapel services the following morning, and B. B. Johnson, State Secretary of the Y. M. C. A. gave the address. His was a very forceful plea for the young men and women to develop in them the personality of Jesus. If we are to be debaters, teachers, ministers, business men, or whatever vocation it may be—Personality is the power needed. Jesus had the perfect personality toward which we much strive. He further said that "our lives much be God-

Continued on page 4

**RAH!—RAH!—RAH!**

**EVERYTHING READY FOR THE BIG SHOW**

### End Men Are In Tip Top Shape

They have been sleeping with Feather Dusters for the last two months and will be able to Tickle You to Death

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ALMA, MICH.

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## CORNER ON DATES.

Wednesday, February 14—  
Minstrels.  
Friday, February 16—  
M. A. C. vs. Alma, Basketball.  
Tuesday, February 20—  
Alpha Theta Play.  
Friday, February 23—  
Zeta Sigma Stag Banquet.  
Friday, March 1—  
State Oratorical Contest at Olivet.

## STATE CONTEST.

The oratorical contest is only three weeks before us. And Alma's representative must have the support of the college, he must go into the contest with the thought that the whole student body is back of him and that first place is in front of him, that Alma must win the day. Few there are that stop to consider what it takes to win out in oratory. The football hero has encouragement from start to finish. The students turn out to see him practice, his team mates continually cheer him on and urge him to his best efforts. The day of the game arrives, and by the aid of ten others he is able to plunge through the line for a touchdown and win the day. His enthusiastic admirers rush in when the game is called, boost him on their shoulders and carry him triumphantly from the field. All of which honor and encouragement he justly deserves.

But consider the orator—first he must have a subject, this may look pretty easy but it takes a lot of thinking to get a proper subject. The subject chosen, then to work, read—read—read, grind—grind—grind, think—think—think. Lots of midnight oil and no student to cheer him on, no team mates to encourage and help him. Alone, unaided, writing, grinding, planning, changing and re-writing this is the orator's task. If you win, good, you are the man of the hour. If you lose, well, you have the experience at least. Oratory is work, it is patience, it is nerve and needs our backing.

Plans are being made to take the Alma college quartette to Olivet, in March; several students are planning to go. Let all who possibly can join the loyal ones and help Wilcox win. Olivet and Albion both have strong representatives and are looking for first place. So are we.

Second semester began with a very busy week, "special meetings, V. M. C. A. campaign, banquet, reception and basketball," but we are pleased to note the splendid interest that was manifest at all the functions and the success of each affair. It shows that Alma students can do things well when they become interested.

## ALMA 50, MT. PLEASANT 11

Alma's gait proved to be too stiff for the Mt. Pleasant teachers last Thursday and as a result the locals came out in the lead of a 50 to 11 count. This is the third victory on the home court for the Alma quintet.

The game was slow and listless from start to finish and nothing in the line of sensation occurred. The locals seemed to lack speed which was present during the early part of the season and the consequence was that only 50 points were credited to them. A 75-point lead would have represented the quality of basketball that the Alma men are capable of, if over confidence had not blossomed out. The basket shooting of some of the home men showed a decided improvement over that of the Bay City game, but the juggling and fumbling of the ball was a noticeable weakness.

Mt. Pleasant had the right spirit at the opening and from the side lines it looked like a sure victory for the teachers and as a result they were unable to connect with the basket. All their points were made in the first half except two lone fouls.

For the Normals, Morrison and Dickerson played snappy games, while Fraker and Wood made records in basket shooting, each getting eight.

Fraker .....L. F. .... Morrison  
Hooper .....R. F. .... Raymond  
Von Thurn.....L. G. .... Wright  
Wood .....R. G. .... Davidson  
Edgerton .....C. .... Dickerson  
Baskets from field: Hooper 3;  
Fraker, 8; Wood, 8; Edgerton, 3;  
Von Thurn, Morrison, Raymond,  
Langmaid.

Fouls Morrison 5 in 11; Hooper 1 in 3;  
Fraker 3 in 6.

Time of halves: 20.

Referee: Dewey, Alma. Umpire:  
Kress, Alma.

Through the efforts of Coach Grady the 1912 football schedule has been completed. The Board of Control will if course have to affirm the list of games but there is no doubt but that the schedule will be passed upon as it stands. It will not be as long or as hard as in previous years. The number of games will be lessened but it was the idea of the Coach that better teams could be scheduled by so doing.

The season will open as usual with the M. A. C. game at East Lansing on October 5. Following this, Albion will be played at that city, October 19, Albion having signed a two years' contract with us; Kalamazoo College at the Celery City, November 2; Olivet at Alma, November 16. Besides these dates games will be played with the Mt. Pleasant and Ypsilanti Normals.

## YPSILANTI.

Robert W. Ward will represent Ypsilanti State Normal at the men's Oratorical contest March 1. His theme will be "The Basic Principle of Modern Progress." Mr. Ward was Ypsilanti's representative last year and won fourth place. He has resigned his position on the debating team to make special preparation, so will be a strong contestant.

Miss Olive McBride will represent the Normal in the woman's contest, which will also be held at Olivet on the afternoon of March 1. Her subject is, "Practical Art."

## M. A. C.

A. I. Margolis of Pittsburg will represent M. A. C. at Olivet, March 1. His oration is on "War."

## ADRIAN.

Mr. Queen will represent Adrian again this year, he was their representative two years ago.

Adrian B. Graham, Will Chamberlain, Edith Hewett and Veda Churchill were back for the Phi Phi banquet.

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# SHEK LUNG, CHINA

Continued from last week.

Our stop-offs in Japan were very enjoyable. We spent a day each in Tokyo, Kobe, and Nagasaki. President Asano of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha Co. invited all the first class passengers to his beautiful home in Tokyo for an afternoon reception. The interior decoration of that home is perhaps second to none in the world. Nothing gaudy or elaborate in effect; everything just matched and all elegance from the inlaid floor designs to the embroidered brocade panels in the ceiling, was subdued with perfect taste. We could hardly believe that such exquisitely artistic people can be so deceitfully mean as to promise to carry you from shore to your ship for a certain price, then after you are on his boat force you to pay double or not let you land. This was an experience two hours later in Yokohama harbor. Having such a weakness for underhanded trickery, it is not surprising that just now the Chinese fear that Japan is secretly aiding the Imperial Army. If such is proven true the new government will boycott her forever.

We received a sudden and thorough acquaintance with the real China passing through the native city of Shanghai. The most important business streets varied from six to ten feet in width, a coolie ahead of us carrying two large bundles stopped to rest for five minutes. Our riksha men did the same for there was no possible way to pass him. We unconsciously half held our breath all the way for our noses were quite unaccustomed to such impressions, it was simply that the streets lacked any system of ventilation, and no place needed it more.

We left our good ship at Hong Kong, it having been our home for four weeks. A night boat took us to Canton where we arrived early Wednesday morning, Oct. 4th. Several missionaries were at the landing to welcome us. Standing there in the midst of a hundred half naked coolies they were indeed a pleasant sight to us. We found that we were to be stationed for the first two years in Shek Lung while we are studying the language. This is a busy market town of 100,000 people, 10 miles east of Canton on the new railroad between there and Hong Kong which was just opened the day we came. This railroad, by the way, is one section of the trunk line which will soon be running between Hong Kong and Calais, France. It now lacks only a few hundred miles between Canton and Hankow to be entirely completed. Since the revolution spread into this section the railroad has ceased operations and we have been introduced to the old mode of traveling to and from Canton by passage-boat—a seven to ten hour ride in uncomfortable and dirty quarters. The train makes it in 1½ hours. The fare is less than a cent a mile (U. S. money).

The most bewildering thing to new comers in China is the changeable value of currency. There is no standard at all—the value of silver changes more or less every day—a U. S. gold dollar is worth about \$2¼ Mexican. A Mexican dollar is worth about \$1.10 in local currency (20 and 10 cent pieces). A five cent piece is worth about six one cent pieces, and the latter brought at present about seven cash, though every one is stamped "ten cash." The Canton local banks will not even accept Shanghai silver. Although Hong Kong is only 110 miles from Canton, its currency is worth from three to five cents more on the dollar. All of which we learned by dear experience—to the profit of every money changer along the way.

We have engaged a nice polite, old-fashioned, first-degree literati for our

language teacher—so that is our chief business five days of the week, five hours a day. Cantonese is the nearest like the common language spoken two thousand years ago of any of the modern Chinese dialects. There are nine distinct "tones" or varieties in which a word may be spoken. Each word must be spoken in its peculiar tone or it may have an entirely different meaning. Every day for one or two hours we sing these different tones over and over and over until we are nearly desperate—our teacher will never know how many narrow escapes he has had from being kicked over the wall!

At present we are living with Rev. and Mrs. A. J. Fisher, the only other missionaries here, in a field of a quarter of a million people. A new house is soon to be built for us so we are looking forward to being in our own home within a year. Just now we are having a cement tennis court built—that is the best and practically the only way that we can get the proper exercise we need. None of the country roads are over three or four feet wide; that means, of course, that there are no wagons of wheeled vehicles of any kind here; everything is carried in baskets or ropes strung on shoulder-bars. So it is no satisfaction taking country walks, it is too much of a nuisance passing "auto-trucks."

A word in closing about the revolution—the biggest upheaval that has occurred in China since ancient history. No telling what will have happened five weeks from now when you will be reading this letter. It is remarkable how unanimous has been the cry, "Down with the Manchu rule!" "Off with the cue!" (the sign of servility to the Manchus). "We desire freedom and independence!" Government soldiers, robber bands and students have joined the "rebel" army. We watched several hundred of them marching into Shek Lung, most of them armed with muzzle-loaders, some with ordinary shot-guns, a very few had good Winchester repeaters. The worst feature of the army equipment are the barbarous bombs carried by the "no-fear-of-death" men. It was one of these who killed the newly appointed Tartar general of Canton a month ago, blowing his body to atoms, killing and maiming many others and wrecking several houses.

I happened to be in Canton on the great cue-cutting day (Nov. 20th). Men equipped with barber's shears were stationed on every street and every cue that passed was impolitely snipped off then politely handed back to the owner—it was a bigger circus than any Freshman hazing I ever saw. Each victim immediately rushed to buy a cap or hat of some kind; we saw several wearing ladies' models. In America it would all have been a grand farce, but here it is a terrible reality—however laughable to us—for it has a deep significance. It

shows that the right must eventually prevail at any cost; that even the Chinese—the most peaceable and easily governed people in the world—will not stand for any government run for the government's sake. May God help them through this critical period and spare them further bloodshed and suffering.

Very sincerely,  
PAUL J. ALLURED.

Anna Fraelic entertained her mother last week.

Lars Hockstad of Olivel was at the banquet Friday evening.

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## THE ALMANIAC

## Afraid.

Miss Mullenbach—"I'm tempted to give a test."

Mr. Goodrich—"Yield not to temptation."

## Unconvinced.

He failed in French, flunked in Dutch, They heard him softly hiss, I'd like to find the man who said That ignorance is bliss.—Ex.

## Absent-Minded.

Prof. M. in a store getting a waist for his wife:

Clerk—"What bust?"

Prof.—"I didn't hear anything."

## Why He Did It.

Miss Struthers—"How did you lose your hair, Professor?"

Prof. Notestein—"It was red and I pulled it out."

## His Reason.

Oberlin was the first co-educational college in this country. In the early days they had a rule that in case there were but one man and one woman in a room at least one chair should be between them. One evening an instructor, passing one of the small sitting rooms, was horrified at beholding a young man and a young woman occupying the same chair.

"Sir," he demanded of the man student, "what is the meaning of this outrageous behavior? Do you not know the rules of the college?"

"Why—er—don't they say that if a man and a girl sit alone in a room they shall have one chair between them?"

## A Peeper.

Wife—"Our new maid has sharp ears."

Hub—"I notice that the doors are all scratched up around the keyholes."

## Now Really!

If Kolvoord went to Court, would he "Sue Brown?"

## Men Do It Quick.

A man can whittle a toothpick for his son in two minutes, but it takes a mother a year to make a match for her daughter.

If Hyde shrinks in "Fairweather," when "Crosset" by "Jenks" with his "Kelley" plug hat, would he (Mc) Nab her? Maybe.

## COLLEGE PLAY.

"All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." It was a sage who first uttered these words; for homely as they appear, they suggest a prime need of man—the need of relaxation. The words are still true, and will always be true. Man must relax at times, if his work is to count for anything.

Of course, we all work. We work early and late. The records of Alma students, who have gone from among us, attest the fact of Alma's industry.

But are we not in danger of becoming dull? To be sure, others have not; but it is said, that they often laid aside their work for social activities. Then it behooves us to play also, if we would escape. Think of Alma college becoming an aggregation of dullheads because of over-work! Perish the thought!

We are essentially social in our nature, and must often meet together for a good time. We need entertainment, as well as instruction. Through entertainment and social pleasures, we clear our mental atmosphere of the cobwebs, or, as Yerex would put it, these are our mental vacuum cleaners. Through them we keep in working order.

We are fortunate in having the means at hand for filling our need. Our talented co-eds, the Alpha Theta girls, are to entertain us on Tuesday evening, February 20, in "A Pink Kimona." Come all! And give them a rousing welcome! Come and see what the inner life of a girls' boarding school is like.

What about those Minstrels tomorrow night?

## SPECIAL MEETINGS

Continued from page 1

centered not self-centered." The afternoon's discussion was led by E. A. Thompson and was on the parable of the "Publican and Pharisee."

Chapel services were conducted by Professor Mitchell on Wednesday, and Dr. Bruske spoke very interestingly on the words, "Not Far From the Kingdom." He told of how the most miserable person was the person who was "Almost but not Quite." Using Miles Standish as an illustration, he said, he was almost a husband, but not quite; almost a governor, but not quite; almost a Christian, but not quite; now he has almost a monument constructed in his honor, but not quite. And how unhappy and unsuccessful his life was. He used many other examples that carried out the same idea and mentioned Paul as the man who was ALTOGETHER a Christian and not almost. The afternoon meeting was interestingly conducted by Miss Andrews. Her subject was Indecision, or "Why Halt Ye."

Dr. Notestein had charge on Thursday morning, while President Bruske gave a very interesting talk on the suggestions from the "Calling of Dan Mathews," showing that the conclusions aimed at in that book are not true to the highest and strongest lives of men. He used Dr. Jewett and Colonel Roosevelt as examples of men to show this fact. "Confessing Christ" was the afternoon subject, and the meeting was led by John Landon.

Professor West led the last Chapel exercises of the week and Dr. Bruske had reports from both the Y. M. and Y. W. C. A. Then spent some time in expressing his gratitude to the young people of the college for the splendid condition of the associations, and the interest that has been shown during the last few weeks. Then offered some good advice and suggestions for future work. The final meeting on the "Good Fight of Faith," was led by Miss Bernice Miller. Again let us say that these meetings were a grand success from every standpoint.

## ALUMNI.

A card has been received announcing the marriage of Miss Margaret Jean Morrison, kg '08, and Fitch Robert Williams, at the home of the bride in Elk Rapids. Miss Morrison is remembered as one of the most popular students of her day in Alma and is known to many students of the present time. Since graduation she has made an excellent record as a teacher in the schools of Tecumseh and Elk Rapids. Mr. Williams, whose home is in Elk Rapids, is one of the leading attorneys of Northern Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Williams will occupy the beautiful Williams home on River street, Elk Rapids, which looks out upon an expanse of forty miles of Grand Traverse Bay and Lake Michigan.

One hundred men of the First Presbyterian church of Howell gathered for their annual dinner last Wednesday evening in the dining room of the Hotel Livingstone. The event is regarded as one of the best meetings of men ever held in the city and that the management meant to make it a great affair is shown from the fact that they secured as the speaker of the evening none other than Governor Chase S. Osborn. The pastor of the church, Rev. L. S. Brooks, '96, has been in Howell eleven years and steadily increases the efficiency of his church from year to year.

Your alumni editor enjoyed a first class visit with our old friend David Magaw a few days ago. We say "our" friend although your editor had never seen him up to the time of the said visit. Mr. Magaw has been

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spoken of so often by the "old" boys, however, that everyone seems to know him. We found him conducting a prosperous grocery business in Kent City, where he is also proprietor of a home which contains a fine wife and two small children.

## Dr. E. T. Lamb

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One door west of Scattergood's Jewelry Store.

**O. W. Swisher**



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and

## Hardware Supplies

The

## Caple Hardware Co.

Alma, Mich.

## Miner's Barber Shop is Always Neat and Clean

TREATMENT OF THE FACE a Specialty

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Hot Baths—Three Chairs

**Uern A. Miner**