

The Weekly Almanian

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1912

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HOME MISSION WEEK

Dr. Blaisdell Discusses Practical Problems of the Day

DURING CHAPEL PERIODS

Talks Are Interesting and of Much Value to the Students

The past week was set apart as Home Mission study week for the churches of the nation. Because of this fact, President Blaisdell has used a few minutes of the chapel service on several mornings to emphasize some of the national problems that can be solved by united home mission work along sanitary, social, and religious lines.

In each address he made use of diagrams showing graphically certain of the conditions he wished to make clear. One morning he emphasized the need of educating the Negro along sanitary lines. This he illustrated by a diagram showing that during the past sixty years the total population of our country has increased four-fold, while the Negro population has increased by two-thirds-fold, and this in spite of the fact that the birth rate among colored people is higher than among white people. The much larger death ratio is due to unsanitary living, a condition to be remedied only by education. He showed that in Cuba, which is one of the fields of Home Mission work, 26 per cent of the total foreign white population are unable to read and write, 55 per cent of the total colored population, and 41 per cent of the native white population. Satisfactory social and religious conditions can not possibly exist until education has done its work.

Again, he showed that in a single year almost 900,000 immigrants from southern Europe, the undesirable immigrant, generally speaking, had flooded our shores, while of the more desirable classes from northern Europe no year had brought as many as 500,000, further, that the immigration from northern Europe is decreasing at a rapid rate, while that from southern Europe is very rapidly increasing. The task of educating and enchurching these millions, must fall largely upon the Home Missionary societies; and unless the task is accomplished the problem is bound to become far more difficult; if we do not elevate them they must degrade us, with the European Sabbath and many other undesirable conditions.

The rapid increase in urban population and the loss of rural population in many states was illustrated. During the decade closing with 1910, 44 per cent of the counties of Ohio, 61 per cent of those of Indiana, and 72 per cent of those of Iowa had a loss in population; and this is saying nothing about many other states in which similar losses occurred. Congested city population is far harder to Christianize and ennoble than is rural population; so the Home Missionary problem becomes more and more complicated. One-fourth of all

Continued on page 2

SIX ALMA MEN ON "TOOT" HALL'S ALL M. I. A. A. TEAM

(Picked for The Evening Press—Four Find Berth on Second Team)

FIRST TEAM

Henning, Alma, right end	De Lapp, Hillsdale, left end
Johnson, Alma, right tackle	Harwood, Hillsdale, quarter
Lutz, Albion, right guard	H. Schultz, Alma, left half
Misenar, Alma, center	Rider, Olivet, right half
Anderson, Alma, left guard	Beck, Hillsdale, full back
Edgerton, Alma, left tackle	

Those from Alma on the second team are:—VonThurn, left end, Vogt, quarter, W. Schultz, right half; and Wood, full back.

ARTICLE IN LESLIE'S WEEKLY

Written by President Blaisdell on "Colleges Must be Efficient."

On "The Public Forum" page of Leslie's Weekly for Nov. 21 there appeared an article on "Colleges Must be Efficient," by President Blaisdell. It surely is practical and shows the real need of the colleges of today.

The same page contains articles by President Butler of Columbia University; Mayor Gaynor of New York City; L. G. Kaufmann president of the Chatham and Phoenix National Bank, New York; and Dr. E. L. Thorndike of Columbia University.

MRS. POTTER'S VISIT.

Mrs. Potter, student secretary for the Presbyterian Mission Board, visited Alma Thursday. She gave a splendid talk in the chapel to the student body, on the subject of the students' need of a world wide interest, and of service wherever one is placed. After conference with the Student Volunteer Band, and private conferences with many of the girls, she gave a talk in the evening before the Presbyterian girls of the college about the work of their own church.

Mrs. Potter is an enthusiastic, attractive speaker and the girls with one accord enjoyed her visit, and received through it an added interest in the great problems of today, together with the knowledge of what was going on in their own church.

DR. KELLER SPEAKS.

The Y. M. and Y. W. C. A. at a joint meeting in the chapel Sunday afternoon were addressed by Dr. Keller of New York city, on the subject of God's plan for the world, and the place that each should fill in it. Through his wonderful enthusiasm and his strong personality he made everyone feel the wonderful opportunity for service and the great need of the foreign field. All present were impressed by his powerful appeal and a strong missionary interest was created. Professor Veatch and Mr. Barton assisted with special music.

MISSIONARY INSTITUTE.

The Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. and Student Volunteer movement have united in arranging for a missionary institute to be held at Lansing on the sixth, seventh and eighth of December. The purpose of the institute is to help and to train those who expect to lead mission study classes. Both the Y. W. C. A. and the Y. M. C. A. are taking advantage of this opportunity. At least four have already planned to represent Alma and many more representatives are desired.

"THE ROSE MAIDEN."

Beautiful Cantata by Frederic Cowen.

On Friday evening, December 6th, at 8 o'clock, the College Choral club of one hundred members will make its initial bow to the public. Rehearsals have been progressing regularly since the beginning of the year and the presentation of this cantata should be a very auspicious event.

The Rose Maiden is a work abounding in beautiful harmonies and attractive melodies. It consists of solos, duets, trios and choruses. The Choral club will be accompanied by the Alma



MR. EDWARD WALKER, Tenor college orchestra of twenty players. The soloists are as follows: Mme. Iva Bigelow Weaver, soprano; Miss Harriett McGreaham, contralto; Mr. Edward Walker, tenor, and Mr. Charles S. Wengerd, baritone. Three of the soloists are Chicago artists.

The price of admission has been placed at 50 cents and as the seating capacity of the college chapel is limited the public is urged to secure reservations early. Choral club members will have tickets for sale. Reservations may be made on and after Dec. 2nd at Rhodes' drug store.

WHAT OLIVET THINKS.

"Our lamps may be dimmed with age and bleary with prejudice, as alleged, but however hard we strain them towards the junction point of the Ann Arbor and Pere Marquette, we cannot see much but Edgerton and Johnson."

INTERESTING LECTURE

On Ferns Given Before Science Club by Alfred Papworth '15

RARE COLLECTION FOR ALMA

Mr. Papworth Makes First Real Study and Has Best Collection of Michigan Ferns

At the meeting of the Scientific club, last Saturday night, there was a talk by Mr. Papworth on the "Ferns of Michigan." Although a student in the college and a young man, he has made a special study of ferns, mosses and wild flowers covering more than five years of almost continual work. What makes his work and collection of peculiar value, is the fact that it has been done in a pioneer field. In England the subject is of such common interest that the number of cheap and reliable fern books is almost unlimited, and the smallest variations are studied and classified. In this country it was not until thirty years ago that any attempt was made to write a manual on the subject. Since the appearance of that modest little book, "Ferns of Kentucky," less than a dozen works have appeared, and the price and technical nature of these have kept them out of the reach of the general public. Mr. Papworth is familiar with most of these, and has the faculty of telling what he has learned in an easy and entertaining manner, so that those who have no technical knowledge of the subject may understand it.

The story of some of the trips after rare specimens sounds like the adventures of a traveler. A trip of fifty-eight miles by canoe and a night in the open was necessary to get one specimen as long as a finger, but the collector was well repaid, for the fern was unknown in the locality until that time, and, in fact, had never been reported away from lime-stone rock. The natural guardian of the plants made necessary some laughable precautions. Hip-boots, mosquito-netting, citronelle and oil of tar scarcely protect one from the insects and water in the swamps, while as the speaker said, only one naturally immune to the poison of ivy and sumac can safely travel in some places. Catching a baby rattle-snake in a butterfly net was an incident of one trip.

Discussing the ignorance and prejudice in the minds of some people on the subject of ferns, he told of the woman who said, "Well, they smell like streaked-snakes, anyway."

After talking of the general nature of the species, Mr. Papworth turned to a part of the talk which is naturally less intelligible to those not trained in botany, but made it very plain. Giving the general laws of fructification and reproduction, he then took each large family by itself, and showed by drawings, the distinguishing characteristics, since it is by the manner of fruiting that the species are separated. A clear and concise definition of a fern fixed the point in the minds of the audience.

Continued on page 4.

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Weekly Almanian

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old as well as new address.

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Advertising Rates on Application

CORNER ON DATES.

Friday, Dec. 6—"The Rose Maiden," by the Choral club.

Thursday, Dec. 12—Lecture by
Brooks Fletcher.

FOOTBALL NUMBER.

The Almanian will not be issued next week. According to the arrangement at the first of the year, the Almanian was published two weeks earlier than usual, which allows a week of vacation during Thanksgiving recess and another during the mid-year examinations.

The issue of Dec. 10th will be "Football Number" and will give a general review of the season and each player, together with other interesting things pertaining to the football season. Statements from old students will be acceptable and will add much to the interest of the issue. If you have a word or two of appreciation for the work of the team this season don't be afraid to send it along. Give us some of your enthusiasm and help us to make this the greatest number of the Almanian yet. Have your copy here not later than Dec. 5th.

Y. M. C. A.

The Bible classes begun about three weeks ago are a great success. About fifty men are meeting every morning in classes before breakfast for a short study or reading of the Bible lesson as outlined by Bosworth in his study of the Acts. The object of this study is not only to get the men better acquainted with the Bible and its great lessons but to create a habit of daily Bible study that will be permanent.

GLEE CLUB.

The College Glee club, composed of twenty young men of the college, is making a good showing. Excellent work is being done under the direction of Prof. Veatch. It is one of the many new additions to the college life that has come this year from the music school.

A tour will be made in the spring to Grand Rapids and other large cities. Judging from the material and the interest manifested, Alma will have one of the leading glee clubs of the state.

MR. SEELEY'S PLAN ADOPTED.

John F. Seeley, of Caro, and a member of the Board of Trustees, has made a long hard fight to have the back of currency free from denominational numbers and has suggested that the size of new bills be smaller. He has just been informed by R. O. Bailey, assistant secretary of the treasury, that present plans are to make the backs of new bills

clear of figures and with an artistic design. Also that the bills will be one-third smaller.

Mr. Seeley is to be congratulated for having been the direct means of bringing about a useful improvement of benefit to all persons in the United States.

BASKET-BALL PROSPECTS.

As this was a big Alma year in football so will it be in basket-ball, for never were the prospects for a winning team ever so bright as they are this year. The return of six veterans and the wealth of material in the freshman class is the cause of this wild spasm of glee. For Fraker is the only old man who will not return to play this winter. His position will easily be filled from the large number of laity.

Several of the football men have made good records while in high school and should make strong bids for the extra job on the quintet. For all the old men look good to repeat this season. Among those who are out seeking a job are: Austin, who featured in some of the minor struggles last year; Misenar, who suped for Edgerton several times when he was laid up with a disabled shoulder; and Vogt and Cook. Of the new men who have had considerable experience on the basket-ball court are Bill Schultz and Henning of Bay City, gentlemen who have been found acceptable in the eyes of the student body on various occasions of pigskin strife, and G. Cook.

Edgerton should be as strong a factor as he was last year and with Wood, Hooper and Capt. Von Thurn will form the nucleus for a winning combine. Coach Bleamaster is a past master in the art of injecting athletic gray matter in the cerebrums of all manner and shapes of huskies and if he has half as much success with the basket-ball quintet as he had with the football team, Alma is bound to have a championship team. Support of the student body is all he asks and so it is up to every fellow who ever even saw a crowd going to a game to get out and try to make the team.

An elaborate class schedule has been arranged and it will do much toward developing the men towards picking the squad for the season's campaign. Every class team plays each other and some energetic battles may be anticipated. For two years the class of 1913 has copped the premier honors in basket-ball and are out to make it three. Von Thurn, Edgerton, Hooper and Misenar are a heavy organization and with a fifth man look like real champs.

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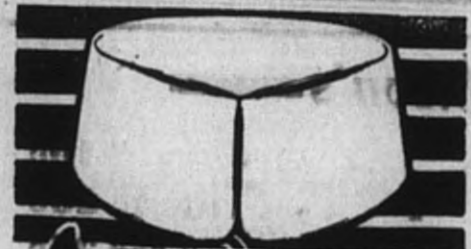
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HOME MISSION WEEK

Continued from page 1.

the population of the United States is living in cities of over 200,000, on one four-hundredth of the land.

In a single year \$1,800,000,000 was spent for liquor and approximately the same amount for food and clothing. In the manufacture of liquor, 6,000 wage earners were employed as against 494,000 in the manufacture of food and clothing; the wages paid for the one were \$45,000,000 as against \$244,000,000 for the other; and the raw materials for the one cost \$139,000,000 as against \$744,000,000 for the other. Turn into legitimate channels the enormous cost of liquor, and what a wonderful increase in trade, in wages, and in employed men would at once take place. West Virginia's vote of three to one in favor of state prohibition must be made possible in every state by education and Christianizing.

He showed that of each \$100,000 in this country one person in a hundred owns more than \$70,500, 29 persons own \$25,300, or about \$875 each, while 70 persons own \$4,200 or \$60 each. With such an awful difference in wealth, what wonder that Socialism polled 604,000 votes in 1910 as opposed to 127,000 in 1900. Another complex and all but insoluble problem. Only the teachings of Jesus can possibly compass its solution.

He showed that the Church in general is still the great leavening power. For example, of all Associated Charity workers, 92 per cent are church members, while of all social workers along all lines, 71 per cent are allied with the church. But the church is holding its own and nothing more; it is not evangelizing the world. This is clearly shown by the fact that in the decade closing with 1910 the increase in population of the nation was 21 per cent, while during the same period the increase in church membership was just 21 per cent.

With such problems to be solved, what is the manifest duty of the 22,000,000 church members, the 60,000,000 church adherents, the 16,000,000 Sunday school members, the 162,000 ordained ministers, the 215,000 church organizations with 210,000 buildings, valued at \$1,300,000,000 and seating 60,000,000 people?

Is not their duty to carry out the text that dominated the various addresses, namely, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation?"

Dr. Blaisdell's discussions were more than interesting to every student and member of the faculty. He has a splendid faculty of getting a lot of material into a few minutes. His appeal to the students to prepare themselves for a proper solution of these problems seemed to give much inspiration to all.

NEW PRIVILEGE.

Self-government has proven so satisfactory to the faculty this year, that they have granted an undreamed of privilege to the students. The young men may call at Wright Hall for the young ladies and accompany them to church Sunday evenings, provided they are back to the Hall by 8:30 o'clock.

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