

The Weekly Almanian

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HAS RETURNED TO THE COLLEGE

Dr. MacCurdy Tells of His Work While Away on Sabbatical Leave.

Returning from a sabbatical year and seeing many new faces among the familiar, gives one the feeling of being both a freshman and an alumnus at once. I can assure both the editor and the reader that the feeling is not at all disagreeable. But as you ask to know something of the year and its work, I proceed to be practical.

The first ten months of the year were spent at the Johns Hopkins university in Baltimore. Baltimore is one hour from Washington city, two hours from Philadelphia, and about four from New York City. The City of Baltimore has grown very rapidly in recent years and the war has only increased its growth. The big new steel plants, the new Proving Grounds at Gunpowder Neck and the new Government docks are only a few of the many newly established industries. The upper reaches of the Chesapeake and the Delaware river, up as far as Philadelphia, now have many shipyards and factories, not only for war industries but for the future trade development of the country.



DR. MACCURDY

Baltimore is rich in Colonial and Revolutionary history and has always been famed for its prominent families and polite society as well as for its oysters. The Baltimoreans take special pride in singing the Star Spangled Banner, for it was from an English war-vessel in the harbor that Francis Scott Key saw that "the flag was still there" on one memorable morning. Baltimore was the first American city to erect a conspicuous monument to Washington. This monument still stands, a splendid tribute of the City of Baltimore to the Father of our Country. It was in Baltimore that the first American railroad company was organized, and it is said that the first electric street car route was established there. I heard of a great many other "first" things, but one of the new first things, the first U. S. Airplane-mail service between Washington and New York was decreed by the Post Office Department not to include Baltimore as a station. The fates were kind, however, for on the first trip, the airplane was, through accident, forced to make a landing in one of the suburbs; so Baltimore was not left entirely out.

Of the city's parks, Druid Hill park is perhaps the finest and most noted in the country for its natural beauty and the grandeur of its trees and wooded hills. Of the residence sec-

tions of the city, Roland park and Guilford are filled with the finest of homes. The former has been noted for its most successful municipal government, which unfortunately, its citizen's think, will be lost, as the last State Legislature extended the boundaries of the city to include these and all sections touching the old city limits. Baltimore now covers about eighty-four square miles and has a million or more inhabitants.

John Hopkins University is located on a beautiful new campus on North Charles street between 32nd and 36th streets. All of the university buildings are new with two exceptions. The new buildings include Gillman Hall, a very large central building; the Civil Engineering building, the Electrical Engineering and Machinery hall, and the power house. These are all in strict colonial architecture.

The student "center" is in the "Barn." The John Hopkins club, made up of members of the faculty and such others as may be eligible, has its home in the old Governor Carroll mansion, built in 1802. It was my good fortune as well as pleasure to be made a member of the club and a Fellow in the university. My special work for the year was on the Protozoa, that group of organisms in which so many biological problems are to be found. The group is also of great interest because of the relation of parasitic Protozoa to certain diseases and to questions of public health.

For the last two months of the year my work was transferred to Coldspring Harbor, Long Island, N. Y., about thirty-four miles from New York City on the north shore of the island. The Biological Laboratory of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, the Station for Experimental Evolution of the Carnegie of Washington, the Eugenics Record Office, and one of the New York State Fish Hatcheries, are located there. During the summer months many men prominent in biology visit the station, where lectures and investigations are in full swing. Of course, everybody takes time to dip in the sea and enjoy the delights of seashore life. We were fortunately housed in bungalow tents and made the most of out-door life.

Mineola, the big flying field, is only a few miles away, and airplanes doing coast guard duty or maneuvering in squadron formation, were almost constantly in sight. Not infrequently one could hear the sound of the propellers in the night, as the airmen got their experience in night flying.

After the year with its work and change, its too few side trips, and its regret that one cannot do everything in one year, it is good to be at home again, brush the dust from my desk and find a fine bunch of eager students ready for work.

H. M. MacCurdy.

DR. GELSTON ADDRESSES THE STUDENTS.

Rev. Gelston, pastor of the local Presbyterian church, addressed the students at a religious service given in the chapel Sunday. His talk was of special interest to the men of the S. A. T. C. and was much appreciated by them as well as by the other students. His main thought was that the spirit of Christ was the only thing that would lead men to righteousness and success. "We are all patriots of God," he said, "and the principles of Christ are necessary for us in all places at all times." Dr. Gelston, from Michigan City, Ind., is the new pastor which has been chosen by the local congregation, and Sunday was the first time that we have been given an opportunity to hear him. We were very glad to become acquainted with him and appreciated the opportunity very much. We hope that we may be able to listen to him again soon.

IN PNEUMONIA TOLL

Dwight von Thurn Dies Saturday in Fort Oglethorpe Cantonment.

Corp. Dwight von Thurn, a member of the Medical Department at Ft. Oglethorpe, Georgia, died Saturday of pneumonia following an attack of Spanish influenza.

The remains were brought to Alma for burial Monday, and a private funeral was held at the home, Rev. William H. Mason, of the Saginaw Presbytery, a former pastor of the Presbyterian church here, officiating. The funeral was attended by six of the Alma company of Michigan and a semi-military burial service was held at the grave.

Corp. von Thurn was well known among the young people of the city. He entered the service early last spring, and had since been stationed at Ft. Oglethorpe. A brother, Captain Lester von Thurn, also of Alma, was in the city to attend the funeral. The mother and sister of the deceased were called to Fort Oglethorpe Wednesday of last week, and arrived at his bedside shortly after his death.

Y. W. C. A.

The regular meeting of the Y. W. C. A. was held Sunday afternoon, November 3, 1918. A few short sentence prayers were uttered and then Miss Beatrice Koepfgen took charge of the meeting. She told us about the Lake Geneva conference, which she attended this summer, as an undergraduate field representative. She gave us first an interesting synopsis of one of Dr. Ralls lectures. He thinks that the one deep need of life is the Christian faith. Then he asks the question, "Can some of us speak the name of God? We as a people need today to think seriously of God because problems can only be solved through Him and this is the hardest of years to feel that God rules. Some people keep their ideas in two water tight compartments, one for religion and one for science, and are afraid to mix them. We need a larger vision of the world. One religious leader said, "The darker the world is the happier I am for God is making a world which cannot be made without toil and strife. Men may live in beauties and stirring things and not realize. There is a demand for insight and vision, a demand for leadership and training. This is a time when prejudice takes the place of reason and insight." Dr. Rall also said that Democracy is the training school on the way to God. It could be a benevolent autocrat.

Miss Koepfgen then told us that Lake Geneva, so called because of its position on the Lake, accommodates approximately seven hundred and fifty representatives from China, Japan, Canada and the United States, in their extension camp. Here they register and are assigned rooms, choose their studies and attend lectures and recitations as any student.

This year the subject of their theme is this. "The Business of Being a Woman" and they are to study it under these heads:

1. Rethinking the place of the home in national life.
2. Cooperating with women.
3. Leadership. College woman as (a) Interpreters of folks or groups issues or movements. (b) Leaders of girls.
4. Vocations for women in a changing world.

In closing Miss Koepfgen said that we need a new sense of values and we must find a new center for the circumference of our lives.

It is a wonderful opportunity for a field representative to attend the conference as she meets and exchanges ideas with girls from other associations and learns the work which they are carrying on.

DIED SUNDAY

Lieutenant Howell Lewis Reid Died Sunday in Paris, France.

Lieut. Howell Lewis Reid, nephew of Joffre, and formerly of Grand Rapids, died Sunday in Paris, France, from the results of pneumonia, according to word received by his father-in-law, Francis King of this city.

Lieut. Reid had been in France since June, and prior to his death was in Paris, where he was on special duty for the independent air service, having been detached from his unit. He was a second lieutenant and was about to receive his commission as first lieutenant, having passed the examinations. Before going to France Reid trained in the non-flying school at Kelly field, San Antonio, Tex., where Mrs. Reid died after a brief illness. While in Grand Rapids they resided at 1420 Milton street, S. E.

Lieut. Reid, who was 30 years old, is survived by his mother, Mrs. Andrew Melville Reid, who is now in Baltimore, Md.; a brother Andrew Reid, who is in the aviation service, and a sister, Mrs. Virgil Lewis of St. Louis, Mo.

FOR CO-EDS ONLY

The Anchor of Hope college printed the following facts for "co-eds only." We reprint them with idea that the information will be welcomed by our co-eds:

- An army corps is 60,000 men.
- An infantry division is 19,000 men.
- An infantry brigade is 7,000 men.
- A regiment of infantry is 3,000 men.
- A battalion is 1,000 men.
- A company is 250 men.
- A platoon is 60 men.
- A corporal's squad is 8 men.
- A firing squad is 20 men.
- A field battery has 195 men.
- A supply train has 283 men.
- A machine gun battalion has 296 men.
- An engineer's regiment has 1,098 men.
- An ambulance company has 66 men.
- A field hospital has 50 men.
- A medicine attachment has 13 men.
- A major general heads the field army and also each army corps.
- A brigadier general heads each infantry brigade.
- A colonel heads each regiment.
- A lieutenant colonel is next in rank below a colonel.
- A major heads a battalion.
- A captain heads a company.
- A lieutenant heads a platoon.
- A sergeant is next below a lieutenant.
- A corporal is a squad officer.
- You may distinguish the infantry by a blue cord on the hat; the cavalry by a yellow cord, the artillery by a red cord; the signal corps by a salmon and white cord; the medical department by a maroon cord; the ordnance department by a black and red cord; the quartermaster's corps by a buff cord; and commissioned officers by a gold and black cord.

INSPECTS SHIPS

Professor Horton, instructor in the vocal department here last year is a government inspector of ships at Sharptown, Maryland, and the following extract has been clipped from the "Blockade Runner":

"It is a rule that government inspectors shall not do any work except that for which they are engaged—yet we hear that Horton has taken on the leadership of the band, the training of the quartet, and the giving of music lessons to some ladies of Sharptown."

She—"How kind of you to bring these flowers. They are nice and fresh. I think there is some dew on them yet."

He—"Yes, there is a little, but I'll pay that to-morrow."—Ex.

INSTRUCTOR IN AVIATION CORPS

T. Arnold Robinson Gets Commission as a Lieutenant in Army.

T. Arnold Robinson, the first Alma man to take part in the great struggle in Europe, where he served with the French army, prior to the entry of the United States in the war, has been commissioned as a lieutenant in the aviation corps of the United States army.

He returned from France about a year ago, and immediately upon his return enlisted in the U. S. army, and since the first of the year, has been training in one of the aviation camps in Texas.

It is understood that for a time at least Lieutenant Robinson will be an instructor in the training camp, where he has labored for months to secure his commission in the aviation corps.

Of special interest to us as a student body since Mr. R.—is a graduate of Alma college.

ANOTHER GET TOGETHER

Saturday evening was another merry one. There were jolly groups of folks in all sorts of cosy places. Those folk around the fireplace were enjoying themselves and how good the popcorn and marshmallows smelled. And that group back of the grand piano, well, they seemed to be plentifully supplied with unlimited pies and real home made "eats." Everyone had a happy and contented look. A little farther on one could see such a nice comfortable spot in the boy's reception room. It was decorated in Hallow'een colors and the folks there were much occupied with delicious popcorn balls and apples. We mustn't overlook the group in the two small reception rooms. They were smaller in number but nevertheless seemed to be raving a mighty good time. Oh, we most forgot those people down stairs in the grill room. From all reports that was a happy place. You'll have to ask the folks themselves for definite information on what they did, but then we know they had a good time.

Did you enjoy yourselves? Well let's have some more Saturday nights like it. Every one come next time.

PHILOMATHEAN

The regular meeting of the Philomathean Literary society was held last Monday evening. After roll call and the business of the evening were completed, a program was given. There was a discussion on the "Effects of the War upon Russia." Two impromptus, "Save Russia or Face Defeat," and "Economic Possibilities in Russia," dealing with the conditions in Russia at the present time, were given by Dorothy Reed and Louise Bacon. In these reports many interesting questions were brought out. One of these was "What Would Happen if the War Should Hold Out Till 1921?" This was one of the best meetings of the year.

DOLLS!

Wright Hall occupants discarded their years and dignity Friday night and sat on the floor to make doll clothes. The dolls are to be Christmas presents for Belgian children. While the girls plied their needles and scissors industriously, Miss Robinson entertained them by reading in her very charming manner, some interesting stories about "Sonny." After every story there was a chorus of "Oh please read us some more!" We hope to have many of these cozy evenings around the fireplace.

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ESTHER FRIEDRICHS Editor-in-chief
HEATRICE KOEPFGEN Assistant Editor
STANLEY WARNER S. A. T. C. Editor
GERTRUDE PETERS Social Editor
FRANK PELTON Business Manager
GRACE GILLARD Subscription Manager
JAMES HALE Advertising Manager

NOTICE

Please report any addresses or change of addresses to the Almanian office at once. We are arranging for a complete and corrected list of all Alma men in government service. These addresses as well as those of other alumni are not all on file and many are out of date. Do not assume that we have the information that you might give, but hand in the addresses immediately.

CHAPEL ATTENDANCE

There is no college, especially a small college, where tradition and custom do not play a very important part in the life of such an institution. There is no student who has gone out from Alma who does not look back upon the practices which are a dominant factor in its existence without pride and a longing for them. They fill a niche in the life of each person wherever they are.

The chapel exercises each morning are a part of the college life. They lend atmosphere to every day. Alumni upon returning to visit the campus for even a very short time try to arrange their schedule so as to include one of these meetings of the college family. Students who are here for their second, third or fourth years and the faculty gladly welcome newcomers into this important part of the program. It is customary to find the different sections well-filled.

Chapel is the one time in the day when the student body meets together and are truly Alma people with a common hope and purpose. To find the chapel well filled creates a folksy feeling which is a most important requisite for Alma spirit and loyalty. The sentiments expressed by President Crooks in his talk Friday morning regarding chapel attendance, are heartily endorsed by the old students, and to the new students the importance of recognizing the value of these statements cannot be over-emphasized.

The unusual conditions in our college this year have made a great many changes necessary. From the standpoint of the women of the college we feel that the changes necessary in connection with the Almanian are a part of our contribution to an are a part of our contribution to glad to take up the work, much as we regret to lose Mr. Barnhart, as editor. The war has necessarily put women in men's places in almost every industry or profession, and we feel that corresponding changes in our college are in a measure an important step in the future position of women. We are very anxious that as much as possible of college spirit will be kept up. The college paper, we believe, is the one thing above all others that should remain stable. Our former athletics, like many of the college affairs, have almost entirely disappeared. And it is with these facts in mind that we hope to make this year's work the best ever. The hearty cooperation of the student body is indeed a desired factor which cannot be over-emphasized. Everyone is asked to contribute. It is not enough to be a subscriber or a reader; to make the paper really your own you must contribute. Then only will our college spirit, in a measure, be retained as we would wish to have it.

In a special telegram received from the government, the committee on education and special training stated that men who have reached the age of eighteen may enter the Student Army Training Corps without the required credits necessary to complete their high school course, provided the commanding officer and President Crooks judge them competent to take on the work of the S. A. T. C.

THE WOMEN OF RUSSIA

By Margaret Moore

Perhaps the most outstanding characteristics of women the world over has been the curbing of their inclinations for duty's sake. As a rule this is more strongly developed in women than in men. Particularly is this true in the Russian of yesterday and today. The Russian woman not only stands equal to her husband but in reality stands far above him before the laws of her country and her world.

These Russian women are of a peculiar disposition which is unlike that of any other nation's women. They are filled with a craving for truths of life and absolute fundamentals and elements. Seldom are these longings satisfied. Because of these desires, the universities were forced to grant degrees to women in 1911. Since that time, women have large numbers at all educational institutions, and are among the best students.

Perhaps, in the latter part of the Imperial Tyranny, the woman revolutionist is the one outstanding figure of her sex. They were oftentimes women born of the highest noble rank, well-educated, delicately reared, who with divine inspiration and righteous wrath at the official injustice toward the people, lifted their countrymen from the dreary idea of life, to a vision of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

A frail girl of twenty had been sent into Arctic Siberia for such teachings. By the help of some friendly Eskimos she escaped to her own country and there in disguise she took up her interrupted work. An American asked her, "Do you not fear erile, death?" and she gently replied, "When one's people are suffering such agonies, one has no right to think of one's self."

That girl represented thousands of Russian women. Sophus Perovskaya, the first woman who died on the scaffold in Russia for her beliefs; Catherine Breskovsky, who died in exile; Marie Spiridovna, who was mutilated, ravished, and finally was killed because of her convictions; these women stand foremost in the line of martyred lives for liberty in Russia.

Perhaps, we think it unwomanly for these women to give themselves for such a cause. But we of American life cannot understand or conceive of the terrific, even hellish conditions which existed in the reign of the czars. Starvation of body, of mind, of soul, suffering, brutal attacks by the Cossacks, ravages too awful and too numerous to mention. It is no wonder that women full of patriotism, idealism, and youthful enthusiasm, should take a stand, not for themselves, but for their nation at large. Revolutionary propaganda was distributed by women who traveled under miserable conditions, and secretly opened the eyes of the people and led them to higher idealism and patriotism.

Now it must not be thought that these activities made the woman of Russia brutal, coarse or cruel, for she was very gentle, sympathetic and refined. Never did she act against the innocent or helpless. Zinaida Konniplannikova furnishes an interesting example of this quality. Aroused by the abject cruelty of Gen. Minn, governor of Moscow, she determined to kill him, either by pistol or bomb, if by the latter she could escape in the following confusion. The first time she intended to do it, he was alone with two children, and out of love and consideration for them she did not do so.

The next time was at the railroad station. She had intended to use the bomb, but because there were two women in his party she used the pistol instead. As the old tyrant fell and the soldiers rushed to her, she held up the bomb and warned them. They shrank back, and after she had deposited it safely on the ground, she allowed herself to be taken. She had accomplished her duty and was ready to yield herself to whatever befell her.

When Russia's male soldiers began to weaken in the present war, it was this same wonderful spirit which drove the best women of the land to organize the "Battalion of Death." Not as women but as Russian patriots they met privation, battle, and death. The originator of the idea was the daughter of a veteran of the Turkish wars. When her husband enlisted she begged to go with him, but he asked her to stay at home. When he was killed in 1915, she went

to the trenches, where for two years she fought like a man. In the Lake Naroch battles, she led her comrades to victory. Many of Russia's highest medals for bravery have been awarded her, and finally she was legally admitted into the 5th Polask Regiment. Kerensky, then minister of war, gave her permission to form a woman's battalion. What courageous work they have done will always be an inspiration and challenge to Russian patriotism. The Bolsheviks wisely disbanded this tender battalion. We would not care to consider the effect upon men who fight hand-to-hand with women, yet their spirited action stands forth memorable.

Of all European women, the Russian woman leads the freest and most independent lives. In 1917 the right of divorce was given to women, and they have tentative and enfranchising rights. They are now politically equal with their men, and intellectually and morally they are far above them. For two years, the streets, public conveyances, and resorts have been full of idling men in uniform. At least one-third of all men are in khaki. Regular drill seems to be given up. Aside from the few who have odd jobs, the millions of uniformed men not at the front, do nothing but eat, sleep, and amuse themselves. In sharpest contrast with this demoralization, is the presence of toiling women in unwanted places—women plowing, haying, reaping, welding pick and shovel on highway and railroad, filling the engine tender, washing cars, carrying hose on the top of trains, pushing baggage trucks; they were porters, conductors on tramways and trains, traffic cops, telegraph operators, clerks in banks and business houses; never gossiping or posing, but gravely fulfilling their tasks.

Russian dramas and novels always portray the woman who shows character, while the man is ineffectual and hesitant. The hero talks but he does not act; the heroine wisely accomplishes her aims without saying so. And they simply picture Russian life as it is and as they find it.

The Russian wife is a good manager and knows what is going on about the place. She tours and inspects her domain, but domestic she is not. Because of cheap servants, she is not so good a cook and housekeeper as the American wife. Higher education and outside "jobs" with good pay, promises them release from the kitchen. As yet there has been no attempt to dignify the domestic arts by giving them a place in the girls' educational curriculum, nor has housekeeping and home-keeping been idealized as it has been in our own country.

Freedom and independence has long been the master ideal of Russian women. Conventions press but lightly upon them. There is only one custom which they foolishly obey—no woman must leave her house without her head being covered. But otherwise, they seem to treat the world impersonally as one large family.

In this time of national darkness in Russia, the women seem the one strong, unchangeable factor. Their lot has been much more horrible, exacting and difficult than that of the American or French woman. Yet, with true idealism, they have clung to their dreams of freedom and independence, and by uplifting themselves, they have endeavored to uplift others, and by the supreme sacrifice of womanhood, they have endeavored to make their country a better place to live in.

FROEBEL

The regular meeting of the Froebel society was held Monday evening, October 28, 1918. The roll call was responded to by current events. After the business of the evening, an interesting program was given. A paper on "How the War Has Affected Literature," was read by Claire Whalley. Following this, Margaret Ardis read some well selected war poems which made us feel the bitter suffering of the mothers who have given their sons in this great war of nations. Eunice Thompson then sang to us of a mother's prayer among the sloping hills of Scotland where "Lassie o' Mine" dwells. It was such a perfect spring day there that we did not wish to come home to a windy, cold night in Michigan. After the Froebel prayer the meeting was adjourned.

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FROM OUR BOYS IN THE SERVICE

At the Front, Sept. 21, 1918.
I have been at the front now over a month and my brigade took a very active and creditable part in a major offensive which cleared the Huns out of 150 square miles of French territory which they had occupied since 1914. My first great battle was a wonderful experience quite impossible to picture on paper. Thank God I lost no men killed and only a few sent to the hospital. Without exaggeration I think I may say I have lived my greatest hour. A second battle can hardly come up to the first in the wealth of experience given.
My battalion played a very satisfying vital part. Prior to the battle for a week it rained steadily and the rain fell throughout the operation. As a result the motor section of the ammunition train was largely helpless and the big share of the burden fell on my horse section. Then when our men drove the Boche out of his trenches and ammunition had to be carried over the trench area and what had been no man's land, nothing but horses could go over the imitation roads hastily thrown through, so from our front line forward we were the division's main reliance. That we have made good I have been emphatically told by my brigade headquarters.
Both before and since the active operations, I have had my battalion well up to the front, where it can be of maximum usefulness. Camp is pitched in a woods which forms a part of our front and we find at least some security from shells and bombs by sleeping in holes in the ground, protection from anything but a direct hit. I have lost a lot of horses for war is dreadfully hard on horse-flesh, but my personal mount—a handsome big bay mare—happily escaped, although we two were out in shell-torn roads most of the time during the fighting and we had to take many chances. It is curious how quickly horses become indifferent to the noise of firing and shell bursts.
Our losses in porportion to the size of the operation were insignificant. This was due in my judgment—and in that of others better qualified to judge—to the fact that our Americans used their rifles to shoot with—not as a mere handle to a bayonet. The Boche is a poor marksman and goes wild when under a galling fire. I know of one American detachment which took a German strong point killing or capturing every member occupant and never lost a man. They kept up a hot fire as they advanced. The French and English way would have been to take the place with cold steel and if taken at all would have been only by the sacrifice of most of the assailants. Our boys are employing their natural skill in baseball in handling grenades. They use a short arm quick throw like a catcher trying to nip a runner at second—and their aim is deadly. The newspaper men I have met in the Yanks have gotten the goats of even the best Prussian troops. I hope it's so. I know our men are really wonderful in their courage and determination. My own men have amply shown the truth of that. I know you will be interested to know that I chanced upon "Lock" Morrison, now a captain of engineers, once a member of the canal staff at the Soo. He helped to build the roads that my train hauled the ammunition over during the fighting. Odd, that we two should meet under such circumstances."

service flag. His name is McCurdy and he hails from up in the Thumb. He attended college about 1908 and 1909. He knows Helmer and a lot of the other older men that I either know or have heard of. He is in the same depot here with me, came over on the same boat, and was in the same company at Camp Johnson, but I never knew until the other day that he was an old Alma man.
I had a fine trip over on the boat, managed to make the trip, without being sunk or being sick a day. I also was very lucky in having a first-class berth; suppose you know what an enlisted man generally gets in the way of sleeping accommodations in war time. When we landed at the port, and as we marched up a little hill between two high stone walls, each carrying a heavy pack on our back, the French children were gathered on top of the wall, singing "Hail, Hail, the gag's all here!" Nearly every kid in that town can sing that song, and most of them can also sing "Tipperary." Of course, so many Americans going through a port like that for so long, have taught them a great deal of America.
All you read about farm houses and so on is true. The people and their customs seem queer to us. They always drink wine with their meals. Wine takes the place of coffee and tea. We cannot get a good cup of coffee here outside of our own mess hall, but we are fed fairly well considering how far we are from home. The French food is very high especially anything with sugar on it. The American canteens sell stuff very cheap. American tobacco is just about half as much as it is in the states, but candy is almost impossible to get. Soap is obtained very easily but good water seems out of the question. Woolen goods is what I lack if anything. The French woolen goods are very high, 8½ francs (about \$1.65) for a pair of medium weight socks.
Here's hoping that the war will be over by next school year. The way we are hammering at them now it's "good-bye Fritzie." I suppose the football season will be over when you receive this. Best regards to all the Alma people, and in my mail when it comes, every week or so, I would be glad to see a letter from anyone from Alma.
Very sincerely,
Linton Melvin,
Field Remount Squad, No. 318,
American E. F., France.
ALPHA THETA
The Alpha Theta Literary society held its regular meeting on Monday evening, October 28th. After the usual opening exercises, roll call was responded to by facts concerning Chinese and Japanese life. The two impromptus, "Chinese and Japanese Poetry," and "What the Chinese Poets Can Teach Us," were given by Vernie Green and Catherine Wanniger, respectively. Miss Gertrude Peters next read a very interesting paper on "Woman's Progress in Japan." She gave a resume of woman's work in Japan from the sixteenth century up to modern times, showing what marvelous changes Christianity had brought about. Miss Emma Wales then concluded the program with an instructive paper on "Women of China," showing how swiftly they are rising from a state of veritable servitude. She concluded her paper with the statement: "If a nation stands as high as its women, certainly we can look to the future China as a nation of great renown."
"What is the difference between vision and sight?"
"See those two girls across the street? Well, the '10 girl I'd call a vision, but that '11, she's a sight."
Absence makes the marks grow rounder.—Ex.

Yours as ever,
(Signed) Major Frank Knox.
Parts of a Letter from Linton Melvin
Oct. 4, 1918
I just want to drop you a line to let you know of one Alma boy in France. I discovered one whose name was never mentioned on the

Notice to our Patrons.

Our theatres have been closed indefinitely by an order of the city officials.

We are sorry to be obliged to deprive the citizens of Alma of their much needed recreation during these times of stress. The closing order was served upon us without giving us an opportunity to arrange anything and we are therefore obliged to fulfill our contracts with the film people and with our employes at a tremendous expense.

We think enough of the welfare of the people of Alma to endure these burdens as long as the people wish us to remain closed and hope that upon our reopening we may be rewarded with your continued good will and patronage.

A. H. ASHLEY, Manager.

Students! Attention!

Come in! Look over our photographic line. Good work done at best prices.

Scarcity of materials and difficult purchasing conditions will demand more time than in previous years. Don't Forget! Don't Wait!

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All those anticipating the ordering of a book before Christmas will please get their order in before October 30. On account of shipping conditions this will be the only order this semester.

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ANOTHER WAR-TIME SUBSTITUTE

Umson leaned back in his chair at the dinner-table, held a cookie between the thumb and first finger of his right hand, and eyed it closely.

Mrs. Umson looked, but did not smile.

Pinching the cake and moving it up and down as if to carefully ascertain its weight, Umson continued his inspection.

By this time Mrs. Umson was glowering.

"Well," she said. "I suppose you are going to poke fun at my cooking again."

"Far from it," her husband answered.

"Then what in the world are you doing with that cookie?"

"I was testing its resiliency—"

"Its what?"

"And also taking note of its compactness and strength."

"Isn't that making fun of it?"

"My dear, you may have unwittingly made a great discovery."

"How's that?"

"This thing may not be much of a success as a cake, but it might make a wonderful substitute for a rubber heel."—Youngstown Telegram.

HIS LESSON

Husky Lad—I don't mind fighting, but no volunteering for me.

Recruiting Sergeant—Why not?

Husky lad—Ain't the king and the kaiser cousins?

R. S.—Yes, I guess they are.

H. L.—Well, I volunteered last night in a family squabble, and that's how I got this scratch on my chin. Phone me a request if you want me, I'll come—but no more volunteering.—Orange Peel.

Miss Academy (confidentially)—"He said I was a poem."

Miss Freshman (sarcastically)—"Did he scan your feet?"—Ex.

"Naw, sah, dis ain't Mis' Brown's domicile. Dis am Mis' Brown's cook!"—Gargoyle.

JOKES



A TENDER CONSCIENCE

Frances and Agatha had been very carefully reared. Especially had they been taught that in no circumstances must they tell a lie—not even a "white lie."

One day, during a visit made by these little girls to an aunt in the country, they met a large cow in a field they were crossing. Much frightened, the youngsters stopped, not knowing what to do. Finally Frances said:

"Let's go right on, Agatha and pretend we are not afraid of it."

But Agatha's conscience was not slumbering. "Wouldn't that be deceiving the cow?" she objected.—Harper's Magazine.

First Reunionist—My son is very literary; he writes for money, and pays all his college expenses by doing it.

Second R.—So does mine—in every letter.—Widow.

SLIDE, KELLY, SLIDE

An officer on board a warship was drilling his men.

"I want every man to lie on his back, put his legs in the air, and move them as if he were riding a bicycle," he exclaimed. Now commence."

After a short effort one of the men stopped.

"Why have you stopped, Murphy?" asked the officer.

"If ye please, sir," was the answer, "I'm coasting."—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

NO DANGER

"I," said the temperate man, "strongly object to the custom of christening ships with champagne."

"I don't," replied the other man. "I think there's a temperance lesson in it."

"How can that be?"

"Well, immediately after the first bottle of wine the ship takes to water and sticks to it ever after."—New York Globe.

GREATLY WROUGHT UP

"Was Professor Diggs very angry when that impertinent stranger accused him of being a pacifist?"

"Undoubtedly. Why, Professor Diggs threatened to knock the fellow's 'block off,' and I'm sure he had never used such an uncouth expression before in his life."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

To shave your face and brush your hair,

And then your best new suit to wear,
That's Preparation.

And then upon a car to ride,
And walk a mile or two besides,
That's Transportation.

And then before a door to smile
To think you'll stay a good long while,
That's Expectation.

And then to learn she's not at home,
And homeward you will have to roam,
That's Thunderation.—Ex.

General Can't put on a party the other night. He organized all the snorers on first floor and gave the C. Q. an entertainment when he arrived. Tomion raised the riot when he snorted out "open up the dampers and let her slide." Can't is footing the expenses of the party by being C. Q. Sunday.

Lieut.—"Now that the rifles have arrived we will have to make Annsee bugler."

Nicholson.—"Say Buck, lets come to a mutual agreement."

Buck.—"Well what is it?"

Nicholson.—"Let's get up at four o'clock in the morning and study French."

A FIFTY-FIFTY IRISHMAN

In his book, "From Gallipoli to Bagdad," "Padre" William Ewing tells the story of a burly Irishman brought into the field-hospital suffering from many wounds.

"What are you, my man?" asked the doctor.

"Sure, I'm half an Irishman."

"And what's the other half?"

"Holes and bandages."—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

He—"You are the breath of life to me."

She—"Well, suppose you hold your breath awhile."—Ex.

"Man, man, thou art dust. Along comes the sprinkling cart of fate and thy name is mud."—Ex.

IN EMBRYO

There are a number of fellows taking astronomy these days. With a new pair of glasses they are able to focus on almost any of the illuminating bodies in the neighboring planets. Partial eclipses destroy some of the views but that only increases the zeal of the students. Some such conversation as the following may be heard after darkness has settled over the campus:

"Hey, 'Bill,' what you doing up there in that window?"

"Shut up, you boob, before the Admiral hears you."

"Shove over and let me up."

"Don't hog those glasses all the time give me a peek." "What are they doing up in my girl's room, having a wrestling match?"

"Damit, they pulled down the shades!"

"'Bill,' you get right down out of that window quickly now or I shall report you for being out of bed after taps."

The animals have organized an octette and are vociferously making progress under the leadership of "Beany" Boyne. Lyons, Perrigo, and Warner furnish the major portion of the noise at baritone. Where did they make their first appearance?

Creaser and Anna appeared in rather slim circumstances at fire call the other night. Creaser took part of his shower and a bath robe to the line and Anna wore a smile and an overcoat. Both report that the gentle breezes were pretty cold.

The rifles are here and if you want to locate a soldier now, just go to his bunk and there you will find him with a rag in one hand industriously cleaning his piece. Prexy says that rifles are not an incentive to study.

Did all of you hear Prexy's remarks about two hours preparation for each hour of recitation. It sounds like a pipe dream, eh? What! According to that theory a soldier would have twenty four hours of the time to himself.

Full dress uniforms have arrived; shoestrings, hat cord, belts and overcoats. Watch them blossom out one of these days.

Marshall Richards is back on the job after suffering a week.

Inspection is over for another week. Everything went off as prescribed except that a few had dull razors and must sling hash Sunday to sharpen them up.

The Lieut. had just been talking with Mrs. Miller, who was in an auto by Pioneer Hall. He said "adieu," and was on his way coming into the barracks one pace behind Sgt. Richards, when that noble youth piped up, "Gee, I'm strong for the Lieut.'s girl."

—By a Geb.

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