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THE BIGGEST JOB

Sometime ago the question was asked of a Michigan soldier, "What was the hardest thing you had to do during your life in the army?" And without hesitating he answered, "Keep clean!" The mud in trenches, the cooties, and the rats offered more difficulty than a day at the guns; going over the top was nothing compared with it. The real job was to keep clean.

That same statement with a different application can be made of life outside the army. Keeping a clean character is the great task that confronts every individual. Clean politics, straight business, and a square deal are being justifiably agitated everywhere.

Alma means to send her students out, prepared to meet the demands of a democratic and Christian people. She was organized in 1887, a college for character, and as such is dear to the hearts of all her alumni, students and friends. Democracy and cordial fellowship with clean character and intelligent Christian living is her answer to the ideals of a rising and eager people. Along with her scholastic demands she breathes a spirit of hearty friendship and simple, unconventional democracy where refinement and culture form a splendid environment for ambitious young people.

We regret very much that some of our numbers have been forced to leave. A college education and a spirit of fellowship such as Alma is able to offer, through association with her instructors, books, laboratories, and surroundings, means more today than it has ever meant before. A reconstruction period needs college bred men and women. Furthermore, those who are leaving Alma at this time have not been able to enjoy all of the privileges and pleasures of Alma under normal conditions. They have been restricted by a general lack of time and freedom, by military duties and regulations and have missed a certain amount of Alma spirit and enthusiasm. We would have wished that each Alma student might have enjoyed all her privileges and advantages.

However, we feel that the S. A. T. C. men have responded well to Alma spirit. And the Students' Army Training Corps has been a memorable event in the college history, an event that has meant much to each one of us. We hope that these men in leaving will carry with them a feeling for Alma, its friendships, and traditions, that they will bear in mind the principles she represents and cherishes; and that they will help her to succeed in her choice of the biggest of all, the job of character building. A college for character like any college is represented by her students and we are ever anxious for Alma to live up to her ideals. We furthermore wish, at this time, to extend our best wishes to those who have been connected with us during the past months and who have found it necessary to leave. With them we are sending a spirit of fellowship and a welcome back to Alma if they ever have the opportunity to return.

ALPHA THETA

On Monday evening, December 9, at the regular meeting of the Alpha Theta literary society the following girls were taken in as members: Helen Barnes, Marie Boissot, Jeane Miller, Pearl Cashmore, Mable Field, Louise Osgood and Frances Priest.

Owing to illness Neva Knapp, Miriam McIntosh and Helen Stroup, who are pledged members, could not be taken in.

ALMA'S MOST POPULAR SONG

Words by Sharrar Music by Kelly
We love one another,
We do— We do!
We love one another,
We do— We do!

NEW LIBRARY BOOKS

Ainslie, Major Graham M.—Hand Grenades.

Forrester & Pierson, Editors—American Ideals.

Bain, George W.—Popular Lectures.

Sarolea, Charles—The Anglo-German Problem.

Archer, William—Gems (?) of German Thought.

Artillery Drill Regulations.

Atwood, Nora—Kindergarten Theory and Practice.

Ayres, Williams, & Wood—Healthful Schools.

Bailey, E. H. S.—Laboratory Experiments on Food Products.

Bailey, E. Stillman, The Sand Dunes of Indiana.

Beck, James—The Evidence in the Case.

Beer, George Louis—The English Speaking Peoples.

Matheson, George—Representative Men of the New Testament.

Robbins, Wilfred W.—Botany of Crop Plants.

Breed & Hoamer—Higher Surveying.

Burgess, William—The World's Social Evil.

Butler, H. E.—Translation of Proportus.

Cahart, Henry S.—College Physics.

Cornish, F. W.—Translation of Catullus.

Cestre, Charles—France, England, and European Democracy.

Patterson, Austin M.—German-English Dictionary for Chemists.

Cheradame, Andre—The Pan-German Plot Unmasked.

Clute, Willard Nelson—Experimental General Science.

Jenkins, Frances—Reading in the Primary Grades.

Hazen, Charles Downer—Modern European History.

Holt & Chilton—European History 1862-1914.

Seymour, Charles—Diplomatic Background of the War.

Lull, Richard Swann—Evolution of the Earth.

Weaver, Erasmus M.—Military Explosives.

Johnston, Major Robert M.—General Foch.

Winton, Andrew L.—Food Analysis.

Lusk, Graham—Food in War Time.

Kellogg & Taylor—The Food Problem.

Ganoe, William—English of Military Communications.

Hauser, Henri—Germany's Commercial Grip on the World.

Manual of Guard Duty.

Hazen, Charles Downer—Alsace-Lorraine under German Rule.

Henry, Francis A.—Jesus and the Christian Religion.

Schapiro, J. Salwyn—Modern and Contemporary European History.

Hyde, William DeWitt—The Teacher's Philosophy.

Terman, Lewis M.—The Hygiene of the School Child.

Karpinski, Louis C.—Unified Mathematics.

Krehbiel, Edward—Nationalism, War, and Society.

Lusk, Graham—The Science of Nutrition.

Robinson & Beard—Readings in Modern European History.

Raffety, Charles W.—Radio-Activity.

Signal Book of U. S. Army.

Waldron, William H.—Tactical Walks.

Gerard, James W.—My Four Years in Germany.

ZETA SIGMA

The meeting of the Zeta Sigma society last Monday evening was opened with prayer by Frank Pelton.

The following men were initiated into the society: Forrest Smith, Lawrence Dunning, Burr Thompson, Frederick Prior and Knowlton Cummins.

Short talks were given by Glenn Campbell, Samuel Tomion and F. Moore. All of these talks were very interesting.

Speeches to the new men were given by Eddie Boyne and Lee Sharrar. Merle Keene was elected to the very important position of janitor.

After the meeting all the members went down to DeLuxe, where they were treated to ice cream and candy by President Warner and Vice President Kruger.

Temperate Lady—When you are tempted to drink, think of your wife at home.

The Man—Madam, when the thirst is upon me I am absolutely devoid of fear.—Boston Transcript.

COMINGS AND GOINGS

Ted Higbee was a campus visitor last week. He found lots of changes on the campus but the girls just as amiable as ever; so he didn't mind.

Norma Swift and Beulah Packard have been visiting in Wright Hall for a few days.

Mildred McBride has gone home because of illness.

Coach Helmer and Eddie Boyne are attending the athletic conference at Albion. Mr. Boyne is the students' delegate.

Helen Stroupe returned to Alma on Thursday. Miss Stroupe has been at home since Thanksgiving because of illness.

Mr. H. C. Moore made his daughter Margaret a short visit last week.

Gladys Ball has returned to Alma after a week at home because of illness.

Most of the sick folks are convalescing rapidly. Beulah Garland came down stairs Friday, looking quite like herself. Word has been received that Miriam McIntosh will be back in a few days.

President Crooks returned last week from his trip to New York.

The barracks hospital as well as the hospital in town is becoming rapidly empty. We are very glad to see so much improvement in the general health conditions within the past week.

Tac Gies, who was wounded some time ago, is now in a convalescing hospital in France. "Tac" received a wound in the leg from mustard gas and his eyes were affected, but he writes that he can see all right now.

Captain Lester von Thurn, who has been very ill with scarlet fever, is now getting better. He is in camp at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.

Ralph T. Monk, who was formerly a member of the class of '16, '17, expects to return to Alma soon. He is awaiting his discharge from the Navy Rifle Range forces.

Lieutenant Efford Beverly was a campus visitor Thursday. Mr. Beverly has been commissioned by the government to take charge of an oil well project in South America, at a salary of \$3,500 a year. This is a very responsible position for a young man. We wish Mr. Beverly great success.

The girls are getting full benefit of "gym." Besides their regular work three times a week they are putting in considerable time in basket ball and fancy dancing. Two classes of the latter have been organized and meet on Thursdays and Fridays.

The senior girls had a delightful spread Thursday evening in honor of Betty Wales' birthday. The table was decorated in green and white with white candles to light it and little black and white seniors at each place. The birthday cake was both beautiful to look upon and toothsome to taste. If one may judge from the laughter that issued from the group, there is no doubt that everyone had a good time.

The Athletic Association has elected the following officers for the year: President—John Finlayson. Athletic delegate—Edwin Boyne. Business manager—Stanley Warner.

P. S. (trynig on R. S.'s hat and wondering if it is becoming)—"Girls, is this really fit to wear?"

FROEBEL NEWS

The Froebels opened their meeting Monday evening, December 9, 1918, by singing "America." After the roll call, which was responded to with a current event, Fay Suffern gave a criticism on Irving's works. Miss Voelker read one of his most interesting and enjoyable stories, "Rip Van Winkle." We were pleased to have Norma Swift, a former Froebel girl, present at this meeting. In her impromptu, which the girls insisted she should give, Norma enthused the Freshmen Froebels to be a participant in the oratorical contest to be held January 19, 1919. She told them "It was really a joy to be a contestant." For Norma was the representative at the state oratorical contest last year. After the Froebel yell was given for Miss Swift, the meeting was adjourned.

CIGARS

Welcome, Boys,

—to the—

Wright House Barber Shop

The Oldest and Best in Alma.
We specialize in Military Hair-cuts and Ladies' Shampooing.
Eventually, Why Not, Now?
HARRY L. WILLARD, Proprietor
SHOE SHINE THREE FIRST-CLASS BARBERS

BATHS

Gratiot County Gas Co.

ALMA, MICH.

Reed's Shoes for Ladies
Burt & Packard's "Korrek Shape" for Men

A. R. SMITH

• 208 E. Superior

Cigar Store and Barber Shop

"Where Quality is the Watchword"

Bath Rooms and Shoe Shining Parlor in connection. In our Cigar department we carry an excellent line of Fancy Box Candy, such popular brands as Morse Chocolates, Loose Wiles Chocolates and Bon Bons and also the very famous Ramer Chocolates. When you think of quality, you will think of

"Davis' Headquarters"

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Home Lumber & Fuel Co.

ALMA, MICH.

REAL VALUES
Courteous Treatment

at

G. V. Wright's

Alma State Savings Bank

Capital \$40,000.00 Surplus \$10,000.00
We Pay 4 Per Cent on Time Deposits
Safety Boxes for Rent

Alma Elevator Co.

ALMA, MICH.

Nifty Styles in Footwear

That College Men and Women like so well,
at

Economy Shoe Store

"The College Store"

The Wright House

Alma's Leading Hotel
C. V. CALKINS, Manager

First State Bank



Old—Safe—Reliable

A Good Bank in
A Good Town

We stand ready to serve you
at all times.

Students try the
Central Barber Shop

for up-to-date barber work.
H. ROWE, Prop.

G. B. PORTER
Jeweler and Optometrist
25 years' experience in
fitting glasses
330 State St.

Home of
Hart Schaffner & Marx
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PROUD'S
DEPARTMENT STORE
"SERVICE"

Hardware, Stoves, Paints
and Oils
EARL C. CLAPP

Crandell & Scott
FURNITURE

Alma Fruit and
Confectionery
Store

BROOKS', LOWNEY'S
CHOCOLATES

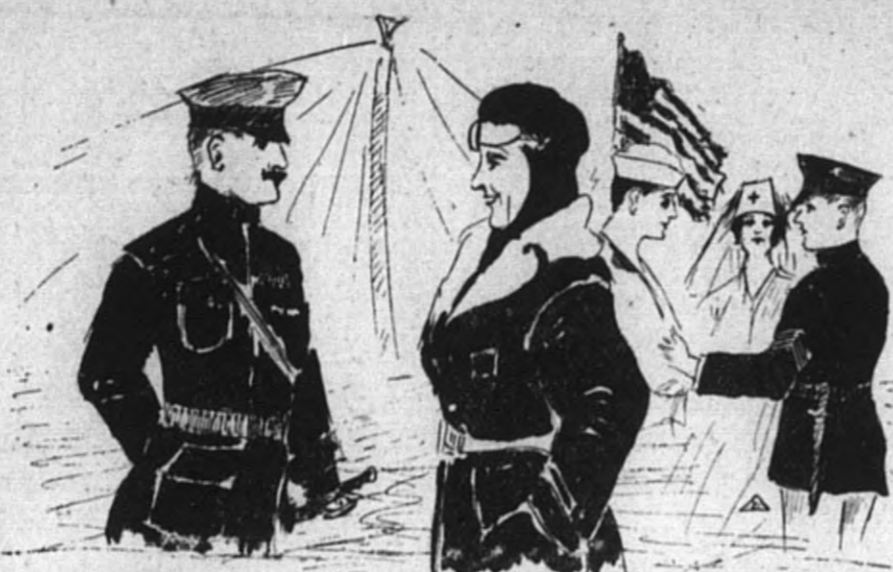
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Classy Line
of
Lamps and
Electrical Goods

Barker-Fowler
Electrical Co.

For a Square Deal on
Furnishings and Shoes
call at the
Square Deal Store

LOUIS ROCKSTEIN
Proprietor



FROM OUR BOYS IN THE SERVICE

Word from "Bulle" Fitch

A letter received from 1st Lieutenant Leland Fitch indicates that he is still hitting the old ball and smashing through the line as he did of yore on Davis Field. He is with the 75th Infantry stationed at Camp Lewis, Tacoma, Washington. Fitch received his silver bars some time ago and is holding down one of the most desirable positions at camp, namely that of Adjutant. As he expresses it, he is riding around on a "bay hay-burner," no drill except battalion, regiment, etc. Besides this he is Judge-Advocate for the 75th Infantry. He closes his letter as follows:

"It keeps me busy most of the time. I have only had five trials this week so far. I don't know how many more will come up between now and Saturday. I am a regular criminal lawyer, or am getting there fast. It is a mighty good experience.

"This state is some place for rain, we get it seven days each week. Some of the officers call it liquid sunshine. It's a nice day as long as there is no rain. I am afraid when I get out of the army I will go out of my way to walk through a mud hole.

"I hope to return to Alma for the last semester's work, providing I get a discharge. We are expecting it before the end of December—nothing official as yet. I believe the second semester opens in February and if not discharged in time I am going to put in my letter to the commanding officers, who will no doubt grant it.

"Leland G. Fitch,
1st. Lieut. 75th Inf.
Camp Lewis,
Tacoma, Wash."

From "Al" Follett in France

November 13, 1918

I have been over here about four months now. France sure is a great country, but most of my time has been spent in rural districts, so I am not very well posted on city life. It is autumn here and one sure can see some beautiful views. I had a truck ride through southern districts and the sights there were especially pretty.

We Sammies are rejoicing over the victory. It hardly seems possible that it is over, but I know that it must be because we do not hear the guns banging away any more. The French gunners near us brought down a Fritz bird last Sunday. It sure was some sight to see the plane tumble to earth.

I hope that we will be allowed to go home soon as we can start again in real life.

Please remember me to all my friends at Alma.

Sincerely,
Pvt. Allen T. Follette,
Med. Dept. 329, M. G. Bn.
A. E. F. France.

PHI PHI ALPHA

The regular meeting of Phi Phi Alpha Literary society was held on Monday evening, Dec. 9.

The society was delayed somewhat in beginning its meeting due to a good many inconveniences of military life but finally got under way.

The program was begun by an address by President Burch. This was followed by impromptu discussions on government ownership of railroads, telephone, and telegraph lines, by Finlayson. Amos Johnson then gave an impromptu on the "Frenchman's Estimate of the American Soldier." Following these impromptus a very interesting paper on "General J. J. Pershing at West Point" was read by Wayne Wenger.

The meeting was concluded by a short business session.

Hope for the best and make the best of what you get.

When a man has nothing to lose he delights in making other people take chances.

Advertise in the Almanian.

CAMPUS NEWS

The wool suits have arrived and made a stunning appearance at the party December 14th.

Pay day comes and pay day goes, but the debts hang on forever. Needless to say the 1st pay day was a blessing for the S. A. T. C. men and they are ready to celebrate appropriately.

Glen Richards objects to Northern lights on Sunday night. He must have a downtown girl now.

The students of Alma College hereby wish to publicly dedicate the portion of the main reception room at Wright Hall behind the piano to Mr. William Richards. No one deserves the honor more than the aforesaid Bill.

Tomion and Crittenden have a very short range camera as is shown by the fact that they had to get very close to Wright Hall Sunday afternoon. We doubt if the beauty and stateliness of the Hall was all that attracted their attentions.

Audrey Kelly's guardian angel with sheet iron wings, previously mentioned in this paper, took life and flew. The student body is in mourning and their sorrow is only exceeded by that of Kelly.

The eternal triangle, spirit, mind and body, is no more with us but in its place are Tebo, Rosella and Pug.

Private Wing wishes to remind the homesick freshmen that on Friday they have the privilege of taking either the "duck wagon" or the "goose cart" for home.

Bill Richards is now composing what is expected to be one of the most romantic historical sketches of all time. This masterpiece is to be entitled "Missionary Journeys with Paul."

Eva Schmidt's melancholy of late has been a subject of much concern to many of her friends. The war god, Cupid, must be at large again.

A new association has recently been organized in the college with the primary purpose of conquering the demon—embarrassment. Secrecy seems to be the motto of the society. Hush-money secures for the members all this secrecy. Sharrar is president and Kelly seems to be collector of the "Hush-money."

Willie Richards reports a wonderful time at the dance. Bill is still "Comin Thru the Rye" and the beard's tickling his chin.

Students are still trying to account for the number of candles on "Betty" Wales birthday cake. Queer someone didn't invent a twentieth century rattle box.

Since Freddy Prior manipulated the moon so cunningly during the moonlight waltz, we think he deserves recognition as the man in the moon.

Rolland Kern reports the entrance in to college life of a new bed-fellow, "Masterpiece."

Sharrar has a unique method of getting into communication with Wright Hall. Lee, you should lend the whistle to Segeants Barnhart and Richards, it would prevent wear and tear on the Wright Hall elevator.

On being asked to write an article for the Almanian, Private Findley modestly declined, saying that the only time he allows himself to be wrought up into any literary attempt is when writing dad for money.

Matrimony is the post-graduate course in a woman's education.

If sympathy could be converted into cash it's doughnuts to fudge that there wouldn't be so much of it wasted.

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.

Your Photograph

Listen! Xmas is just a few weeks away. You know the comparative value of a gift of this kind with others.

Please get your orders in nearly.

W. E. BAKER

"Bak.," The College Photographer

LADIES—MEN

Bring your Cleaning, Pressing and Repairing to the St. Alma Tailors, the All-American store, where the best work's done.

SERVICE—Garments to be Dry Cleaned, left in the forenoon, will be ready for delivery next day.

LOCATION—Make no mistake, look for big sign—

St. Alma Tailors, Dry Cleaners

OUR KODAK FINISHING
DEPARTMENT

is at your service.

We use all Eastman equipment in our shop.

C. R. MURPHY

The College Drug and Book Store

Morse's Chocolates

WINSLOW BROS.
DRUG STORE
Opposite City Hall

"For Better Services
and Greater Efficiency"

Central Michigan Light & Power Co.

313 So. State St.

You will want a Memory Book in which to preserve a record of the friendships and activities of your college life.

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

FLOYD H. KRUEGER, Agent

Y. M. C. A.
CANTEEN

Any suggestions for the improvement of the service will be welcomed.

Returns go to company fund.

PHILOMATHEAN SOCIETY

The meeting of the Philomathean literary society on Monday evening was the initiation of the new members. Roll call was answered to by the name of a well-known musician and an interesting fact concerning his life, hollowing roll call the initiation rites were carried out. The girls who joined the society at this time were Dorothy Hall, Helen Ruby Hamilton, Alice Lansing, Marjorie McCurdy, Mildred Miller. Three of the pledged members were unable to be present on account of illness. These girls are Ruby Hamilton, Alice Lansing, Marjorie McCurdy, Mildred Miller.

Just as we were beginning the initiation the welcome sound of mens voices were heard and after listening a moment we realized it was our good friends of the Phi Phi Alpha literary

Y. W. C. A.

The Y. W. C. A. meeting of Sunday was lead by Wilhemine Ritter. She read to us in her charming manner the story of the Christ Child. Christmas songs and a bright fire in the fire place made the meeting truly Christmas in spirit. Florence Thompson told the story, "Dog of Flanders," which was greatly appreciated by all.

THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

(Continued from page one)
room, then a frenzy of cries of merriment and joy. All the tots flew to the gayly decorated Christmas tree, nearly hugging the daylights out of Dear Old Santa, and just about kissed all the roses off his cheeks!

peaks Moses delivers the Law in all its majesty in strange thundering polygynies that would have shocked the ears the Egyptian scribes with whom learned his *witten* and would certainly have appaled the Lawgiver himself. The songs that Once did Sweet in Zion glide resound the chorus of eeny-meeny-miny-mo and the words of Jesus in new accents: "Let the little children come unto me." This is not mere fiction. There are no pictures in these stout volumes! That picture, ketched above shines between the lines of a score of them.

Up on that shelf is the Po,yglot of Stier and Theilelt con. the very word of the Septuagint translated gradually into Greek from the Hebrew under Alexandrian Jewish influence between 280 and 150 before Christ—an invaluable witness to the integrity of the Hebrew text and to the reality of the phenomenon of predictive prophecy. Beside the Greek is the original Hebrew, a wonderful language, every word formed from a definite root, almost always of three letters, all constants. Those dots and dashes above or more often under each word are the vowels long afterward added by the Massorettes or the accents that guide the cantillation in the synagogue. And the wonderful conceptions of God, man and nature conveyed to us in this inspired Hebrew library are expressed through only about 5,642 different Hebrew and Aramaic words, excluding of the proper names. How the Jew must laugh as he hears many

Abba—talttha cumi—Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani—ephphatha, preserved in Mark's gospel are Palestinian Aramaic almost perfectly reproduced in Syriac. This is the church language of the Nestorians and thousands of other oriental Christians, The Dominicans of Mosul and the American Mission at Urumia issue the scriptures and other books and even magazines in the ancient and especially the modern forms of this dialect which was about 700 years before Christ in Hezekiah's time the conventional language in diplomacy throughout the East. The Biblical Aramaic differs but little from the Syriac although the dialects are distinct. We fancy that the in, Oient Rabshakeh would have little difficulty in picking his way through Lee's Syriac Peshitta in our library if he were once used to the characters of its alphabet.

Another very rare specimen in our library is a copy of the Ethiopia psalter. The Ethiopic or Geez is cognate with the most ancient Arabic, having been introduced into Abyssinia by early settlers from Arabia, The Abyssinians having become nominal converts to Christianity, probably through the labors of Syriac-speaking missionaries in the early centuries of the Christian era, still employ this ancient Ethiopic in their services. There is also a copy of their liturgy in our library. Abyssinia is a most interesting country, wild independent mountaineers exhibit many virtues, although their Christianity is at a very low stage of ignorance and barbarism. The late King Menelik, the Negus, as his

Greatest of all feats of strength is

Advertise in the Almanian.