

The Weekly Almanian

VOL. VI, NO. 20

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1913

PER COPY 5 CENTS

PHI PHI BANQUET

Held at Wright House, Saturday Evening, Feb. 15th

AN ANNUAL EVENT

Large Number Former Members Back

Saturday evening, February 15, Phi Phi Alpha held its annual banquet at the Wright House. At nine o'clock the guests, sixty in number, filed into the dining room, which was strikingly decorated for the occasion with college and society pennants and streamers. After the blessing had been asked by President Blaisdell they partook of a bountiful six course dinner served in splendid style by landlord Parr.

After an hour and a half of feasting, Joseph L. Kennedy took charge as toastmaster and with a few clever stories introduced Maurice F. Cole '16, who put everyone in pleasant humor with a rousing toast on Initial Efforts. Paul Austin '15, followed with a pleasing tribute to the ladies, having for his subject "The Ladies." The third speaker whom Toastmaster Kennedy presented was Anthony H. Koning, a senior at Olivet and a member of Phi Alpha Phi of that college, who brought a message of good in his toast to "Our Affiliation. The annual Philo toast, "Our Hosts," responded to by Miss Margaret Boag '13, proved to be one of the cleverest addresses of its kind ever delivered at an Alma College banquet. Next came Harold V. Wilcox '14, who toasted "Junior Philosophy" in a clever manner. Mr. Wilcox was followed by President Blaisdell. "Alma's To-morrow" was Dr. Blaisdell's subject and his address, brief though it was, was conceded to be one of the best he has delivered in Alma. "A great small college," like Amherst, Dartmouth, Williams and Lafayette, is the future he predicted for Alma, and his proposed methods for attaining such a position in the educational world were intensely interesting and practical. The closing toast was delivered by Claude W. Satterlee '13, who ably discussed "Phi Phi's Ideal.

Taken as a whole, this year's banquet is conceded to have been by far the best in the history of the society. Among the former Phi men who were back were Ralph Yonker of Detroit, Frank Angell of Ionia, Harold Rix of Oscoda, Cass Chase of Detroit, Will Baker of Midland, Ralph von Thurn of St. Louis, Eural Race of Alma, and Floyd Smith of Mt. Pleasant. The Misses Hazel Du Long of Bay City, Flossie Gates of St. Louis and Florence Day of Clare were among the out of town guests.

Messages of greeting were received from John H. Marchmont and Adelbert Lindley of Columbia University, Normal H. Angell of Baltimore, John Finlayson and Robert von Thurn of Auburn Seminary.

—L. V.

Y. W. C. A.

Miss Robinson of the Toronto University will be here in the interest of the Student Volunteer movement, on February 26th and 27th. She comes highly recommended as a worker among young people. None of the students can afford to miss hearing her speak Wednesday evening at the union prayer meeting.

COMING

The Greatest Vaudeville of all times will be given at the Realty Opera House Wednesday, March 5th, by 25 of Alma's cleverest Students, under the direction of Coach Bleamaster. Don't fail to be there.

8—BIG ACTS—8

TRUSTEES AT CHAPEL.

Tuesday morning of last week a number of the college trustees visited chapel and gave very interesting talks. Among whom were Rev. David Howell, of Diamondale, Rev. James M. Barkley of the Forest-ave. Presbyterian church of Detroit, Mr. L. Laurence, of Lansing, Mr. M. W. Tanner, of Saginaw, Mr. J. F. Seeley, of Caro, Mr. C. W. Chathfield, of Bay City, Mr. R. F. Tracey, of Sturgis, Mr. J. Pierson, of Stanton, Mr. Ira Hatch, of Chicago, Rev. Brooke, of Howell and Prof. K. P. Brooks, of Mt. Pleasant.

They spoke of the change that had taken place in Alma College since the starting and of what they intended the future Alma to be, and pointed out to the students how much depended on them to make Alma a great small college similar to Beloit only better, as Rev. Barkley said. Rev. Howell in his speech displayed unusual amount of wit for so young a minister.

Mr. Seeley in speaking to the students said: "In order to become great they should be what they seem, and seem what they be; and seem and be what they should be."

Rev. Barkley gave the following as the mission of the true worker which Alma College should produce.

THE REST OF US.

There's so much that's bad
In the best of us,
That the rest of us
Should feel very sad.

There's so much not bad
In the worst of us,
That the first of us
Should feel very glad.

If the best of us,
Help the rest of us,
Then the worst of us
May be first of us.

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"LETTER TO THE ALMANIAN."

Your editor having kindly offered me the use of these columns, I must, as a lawyer would say, "accept his offer in the terms of the offer." The "quid pro que" asked was: 1. That this letter be something about myself. 2. My remembrance of Alma. We shall consider them in the order of their importance, or in the reverse order.

"My Remembrances of Alma" are many and varied. It shall be my purpose to write of those which I deem of the most importance; (a) as distinctive of Alma when compared with university life; (b) those which tend most strongly to fit her students to meet the real problems of academic life; (c) the most valuable lessons I learned at Alma.

In as much as our perspective is invariably determined by our viewpoint, pardon a personal reference, please. I entered the Academy, a green boy from the farm in the autumn of 1905. I of course cherished certain and sundry ambitions, some of which, I may say were realized; others met similar ambitions of other students and, my viewpoint is, I take it, that of the average Alma student.

Chief and foremost of the characteristics that distinguish Alma from certain other institutions of learning, is the happy habit of electing the best man available for the vacant position you seek to fill. Friends, it fills me with disgust to see students bargaining votes for a position like class-valedictorian, for instance. The fraternity spirit of grabbing all of the offices for members of that particular society, is to be detested. When you analyze it, you will find it to be Tammany Hall spirit collegized. That sounds harsh, but isn't that what it is? If so, fight that tendency wherever and whenever it appears. The thing that should distinguish the college man or woman, from

Continued on page 3

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Met at the College Tuesday, February 18th

BUSINESS TRANSACTED

New House to be Built for President

At the meeting of the Board of Trustees, held at the college on Tuesday, February 18th, there was a large attendance of the trustees and a great amount of business was transacted. The various acts of the Executive Committee and local members of the Board since the last meeting were approved.

In the election of officers, Rev. James M. Barkley, D. D., of Detroit, was re-elected chairman; Mr. Francis King, of Alma was elected vice-chairman; Mr. C. B. Chatfield, of Bay City was elected treasurer; Mr. Albert P. Cook was elected secretary and assistant treasurer, all for the term of one year; Mr. A. E. Bagley, M. D., of Alma was re-elected member of the Farm Committee for two years.

The Committee on Buildings and Grounds were authorized to have the library fitted with electric lights.

A matriculation fee of five dollars was authorized. The post-graduate tuition was made forty dollars, plus a ten dollar diploma fee. The general tuition fee was raised from thirty dollars to forty dollars per year.

The large boulder in front of Hood Museum was named the "Bruske Boulder."

Mr. J. H. P. Hughart, of Grand Rapids resigned as trustee and his brother, Mr. W. O. Hughart, Jr., was elected to the vacant position. An Endowment Committee of five trustees, including the chairman of the board, was elected to secure an increase of the endowment and equipment of the college, the president of the college to be an advisory member of the committee.

The date of the Mid-year meeting was changed to the third Tuesday of January, and it was decided to hold a meeting when Synod meets in October.

Plans were made to proceed with the building of a house for the president on the block south of the Administration Building. The house is to cost from six to seven thousand dollars.

It was decided to permit the use of the buildings for a summer session of the college.

The following changes in the curriculum and requirements for entrance were made, viz:

1. That Vocational subjects may be offered for college entrance from an approved high school, provided such subjects are accepted toward graduation from said school.

2. That the work of the Freshman year be rearranged as follows:—English, 3 hours; a foreign language, 4 hours; Mathematics or Science, 4 hours; a second language, mathematics, science or history, 3 or 4 hours; "College Life" or Bible, 2 hours; total sixteen or seventeen hours. In the Sophomore year must be taken a year of history and science if these subjects have not been previously taken, and two hours of Bible.

3. That Bible, 2 hours, be required in the Junior year and that a course in "Applied Christianity," 2 hours, take the place of Theism in the Senior year.

4. That the subjects required for graduation shall be English, 6 hours; Bible, 8 hours; foreign language, 12

Continued on page 4

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CORNER ON DATES.

Feb. 27—Alma at Olivet.
Feb. 28—Alma at Albion.
Mar. 5—Athletic Vaudeville.
Mar. 7—Oratorical Contest.
Mar. 14—Pinafore.

ORATORICAL CONTEST.

Friday afternoon and evening, March 7, the Michigan Intercollegiate Oratorical Association will hold its annual contests under the auspices of Adrian College, which has not had the contest for nine years. Plans are already being made to royally entertain the two thousand visitors expected. Albion as usual will head the delegations, sending five hundred students in a special train.

The evening contest will be held in the big Adrian theatre, none of the college buildings being large enough to hold the crowds.

A complete list of the contestants has not been made public, but it is known that Willis B. Perkins and Miss Winifred Wells will represent Olivet, Max Harris and Miss Ora McKim will represent Ypsi Normal, Burt Bouman and Miss Helen Crissman will speak for Kazoo and Ralph Peterson and Miss Ethel Bedient will be Albion's contestants. Peterson won the interstate Prohibition contest last year and will probably be the hardest man in the bunch to defeat. Harold Wilcox and Miss Ethel Thompson will represent Alma. Wilcox has been in the state contest for three successive years, which is claimed to be an intercollegiate record. Hillsdale, Adrian, Hope and M. A. C. will also have contestants.

Olivet and Adrian will have a representative in the woman's contest for the first time. Alma's last representative in the lady's contest was Mrs. Sebring, four years ago. Miss Thompson shows great ability as an orator, and Alma is looking to her to win the honors. It is expected that every college will be represented in that contest this year except M. A. C. The ladies will compete in the afternoon and the men in the evening.

NEWS ITEMS.

Mrs. Papworth of Howell visited over Sunday with her son Alfred.

Miss Jean McGill was a welcome guest at Wright Hall the last of the week.

Mr. Cass Chase, '09 of Detroit, was a college visitor over Sunday. He gave a very interesting talk at the Y. M. C. A. Sunday morning.

Dr. Blaisdell is in Chicago on business this week.

Mr. Frank Angell, Secretary of the Y. M. C. A., of Ionia county spoke to the students at chapel Monday morning.

Oscar Anderson assisted by Bope Butler and Clarence Goodrich accompanied Addison Wilson to the Emerson and Lafayette churches last Sunday and conducted a song and praise service.

Rev. T. F. Gray, pastor of the Congregational church at Edmore, and daughter Beryl visited his daughter Carol a few days at Wright Hall.

Miss Gladys Dershem had as her guest Miss Clare Darnton of Adrian, part of last week.

Miss Marion Rounsifer, Earl Woodruff and Alfred Papworth were glad to have with them a few days their pastor, Rev. Lewis Brooke of Howell, Ill.

Harold Ri* of the U. of M. visited Alma friends over Sunday.

A musical service is being planned to be given in the Presbyterian church next Sunday evening. This promises to be the best of its kind given this year.

Miss Hazel DuLong of Bay City, a former Alma student is visiting Miss Ruth Cook and other friends.

Miss Marguerite O'Donald spent the week with her friends at Howard City.

Mr. Ralph Yonker of Detroit was here to attend the Phi Phi Alpha banquet last week.

DR. BLAISDELL.

Dr. Blaisdell was at Hope last week and attended the inauguration of Dr. Anne Vennema, as president of Hope College, on Wednesday, February 19th. Later in the week, he went to Chicago. Sunday he spoke at the First Congregational church in Wilmet, Ill.

PINAFORE.

"Pinafore" a light opera by Gilbert and Sullivan will be presented March 14th under the auspices of the School of Music and under the direction of Mr. John Anderson. The opera abounds in beautiful and catchy melodies, and brims over with wholesome humor. The opera will be



staged and costumed completely. The cast embraces over thirty people besides the assisting orchestra. Leading roles will be taken by Mr. H. C. Moore, Miss Fuller, Miss Netzorg, Miss Rowe (Ithaca), Mr. Peet (Ithaca), Mr. Veatch, Mr. Anderson and others. The complete cast will be announced next week.

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"LETTER TO THE ALMANIAN"
(continued from page 1)

those who have not had such an opportunity, is broad sympathies. True education, true culture is evidenced by a broad vision, courageously supported and defended. In our college days we form those traits of character, those habits of thought, which in later years determine what our opinions shall be. In a word, habits of thought formed in college, determine whether or no you shall blindly follow the leaders in your church, in your party. Those who are guided by expediency, rather than by principle are soon forgotten. They are never of the calibre of statesmen. Never, never let society-expediency stand in the way of principle of electing the "best man." Believe me, when I say that our nation needs men and women possessing this habit of thought.

Alma always was a good loser. Students of Alma, past or present, this is something that we may well be proud of. To be a good loser, means not to blame your defeat to the inefficiency or culpability of the referee or judge. It is the attitude that admits defeat, but has coupled with it the intention that at the next encounter you will be more fully prepared and will fight harder. Not that I will advise the debating-teams, the orators, or the athletic teams to court defeat. Most assuredly not, if defeat doth come, all is not lost; instead you are gaining something. We do not all inherit the spirit of "never say die;" some of us must, if we are ever to get it, gain it by experience. From an experience gained by losing more debates and oratorical contests than usually falls to the lot of Alma man, I wish to express the opinion that I gained an outlook that I deem most valuable.

Personality always creeps into that which we write, so those of you who read this are forming an opinion of the writer. Perhaps you are wondering why one with such a temperament should be studying law. If you believe that most lawyers are economic parasites feeding upon the quarrels of fellow-beings, I most heartily agree with you. If you believe that the law profession has fallen from good repute, I say amen; why then study law.

Every line of endeavor is dependent upon men; the character of these men determines the attitude of the profession. The hue and cry against the courts, as I see is due to the attitude of the lawyers themselves, the majority are in an intellectual rut, their conception of the law is much as it was the day they received their certificate of admission to the bar. The clients who pay the biggest fees fight change, for stability means money in their pockets. I believe they honestly think stability their alienable right. Their sympathies are not broad. Law must reflect the spirit of to-day. When I say that I believe in making it impossible for the law profession to be parasitic, and in laws that seek to eliminate privilege of any and every form, you see why I remember the "Alma way" of electing the best man, also the "Alma spirit" of being a good loser, for the fight must be a long one.

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Famished.

Leon K.—“Professor, something is preying on my mind.”
Prof. M.—“Really, it must be very hungry.”

Well Secured.

Rogers—“Miss Collins, will you go to the musical with me?”
Miss C.—“Have you secured the seats?”
Rogers—“Oh, come now, you are not so heavy as all that.”

Pretty Tough.

Mrs. Fancher (at dinner)—“Is it not hard that this poor little lamb should be destroyed in its youth just to cater to our appetites?”
McFarlane—“Yes. It is tough.”

Badly Needed.

Miss Schultz (who had been quizzing her class somewhat to her disappointment, remarked as she dismissed the class)—“I have heard that fish is good brain food. If that be true, I advise you to swallow a whale.”

An Old Friend.

Bee.—“Beulah was afraid the girls wouldn't notice her engagement ring.”
Marion—“Did they?”
Bee.—“Did they! Six of them recognized it at once.”

Hard Lines.

Clara —“What, she mad at Prof. W.?”
Emily—“Yes.”
Clara—“But how can that be? He wrote a beautiful poem to her.”
Emily—“That's just it. She read the title and it made her angry and she simply tore it up without reading the poem. It was ‘Lines on Henrietta's Face.’”

Just Published.

Prof. R.—“Miss Cook, where can I find that new book, ‘Mustaches as Lemon Strainers’? It's bound in haircloth.”

MEMORY JOGGERS.

By Ken Hubbard.

Flattery won't hurt you if you don't swallow it.
It's no disgrace to be poor, but it might as well be.
The feller that fails in the east, would starve in the west.
You kin allers tell a self-made man if you keep your ears open.
It pays to be honest, but it don't pay enough to suit some fellers.
Nobody works as hard fer his money as the feller that marries it.
There can never be perfect happiness when the salt shaker is allowed to get empty.

Folks what blurt out just what they think, wouldn't be so bad if they thought.

When some folks say something nice they act like they had spent some money.

If some folks don't know something bad about somebody they don't say nothin.

Every time I look at some fellers I can't help thinking what good wives they'd make some girls.

Most homely women make themselves homelier by adding some little touch to keep from being so homely.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

Continued from page 1

to 20 hours, or two years' work; physical training, 2 hours; total 48 to 56 hours.

5. That the Academy as a division of Alma College be discontinued at the end of the present college year.

6. That classes in elementary Latin and German be provided for applicants who are deficient in the two units required in foreign language.

TRUSTEES AT CHAPEL

Continued from page 1

But the best of us,
And the rest of us,
May pass others by,
And together die.

May the first of us,
And the worst of us,
Avoid such sad fate,
Ere it grow too late.

Rather let us die,
All the best of us,
All the rest of us,
As Christ did die.

Then in union sweet,
All the best of us,
And the rest of us,
In our Lord may meet.

And the very sad,
Of the worst of us,
With the first of us,
Shall be very glad.”

The students thought it was one of the best and most inspiring chapel exercises they had ever attended in Alma College.

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