

THE ALMANIAN

The Student Publication of Alma College

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"BUM JOBS"

Bruce Barton has written an interesting editorial in a recent publication on the subject of "Bum Jobs." He tells of Calvin Coolidge, as lieutenant-governor of Massachusetts of Henry Ward Beecher, as a minister in a Western frontier town; and of Horace Mann, leaving his brilliant prospects at the bar to become Secretary of the Massachusetts Board of Education.

Coolidge, as governor-general, worked at the speeches he was invited to make. He read history and enunciated principles of government. A collection of the speeches he had made while holding down the bum job helped most in making him Vice-President. Beecher, in the frontier town, preached his best each Sunday. A chance visitor saw that he was bigger than his job, and Beecher received an invitation from a big church in Brooklyn. Mann made the despised office of secretary of the Massachusetts Board of Education, one of the most powerful influences in the nation.

Barton concludes: "Most of us are

sentenced to spend all or a large part of our lives in bum jobs. One difference between us and Coolidge, Beecher and Mann is that we know the jobs are bum. They didn't seem to know it. They just thought they had a chance to do a good day's work."

Most of our campus offices are bum jobs. Of course at election time they are luscious plums. The candidate trembles until the election results are announced. But once enthroned he moans of "responsibilities, tasks, and non-appreciation." Such at least is the average cry of the office-holder. Bum jobs, and they know it.

On the other hand there have been individuals who took their opportunities to do good pieces of work. Back in 1922 Russ Wilson, as editor of the *Almanian*, wrote an editorial pleading for a college clock system. The idea took root and last year one was established. We won't blame Wilson for the present clock system and its non-agreement with our own South Bend, but when the running of the clock becomes mastered it should be a credit to the class who donated it.

In 1923 Wilson was the local manager of oratory and debate and secretary of the Michigan Oratorical and Debate League—jobs often taken and merely held. And yet as secretary and manager Wilson put thought and effort into the task and became the most valuable member of the board of M. O. L. directors. It was his idea that the fall meeting be held, a custom which has been found desirable and has been used ever since.

In 1924 Lowell Hudson was the local manager and president of the state league. As president it was his duty to preside at the oratorical contest at Hope College. Instead of merely announcing the speakers, Hudson presided in such a way that at the conclusion his efforts were declared the bright feature of the contests rather than the oratorical gems which were presented.

A few years ago the Women's Glee Club would be fortunate to have a trip to Ithaca to present a concert. Last year they made a very successful tour of the northern part of the state. This year they have plan for a trip to the southern portion. Professor Ewer and officers of the club had to make strenuous efforts to accomplish the new step. Professor Ewer also put in some more hard work and revived the operetta on the Alma campus. A few years ago the athletic association was hopelessly in debt. Through the efforts of Mr. Sharrar as graduate manager and of student managers (or often of their assistants) the athletic association, while still in debt, has kept the teams well equipped and is in a firmer position. Society houses on the campus are the result of the hard work of a few leaders within the societies who have carried their more phlegmatic brethren in their wake.

The Campus jobs are bum jobs unless the fellows holding them know better. Nowadays the talk is of "degeneracy" and we speak of "these decadent days" and lack of leadership. When the student body shall very carefully consider candidates, and when office-holders themselves shall feel greater responsibility than mere "society constituency" the college need have no fear of decadence. The jobs may be bum in some hands, but the proper individuals in those offices will never know it.

CAMPUSOLOGY

The Lieutenant—Do you believe that there are mermaids at the bottom of the sea?

The Sergeant—Dunno, but there's usually a woman at the bottom of everything.

Dear Dad:
Please send check am dead broke.
Your loving son,
R. C. T.

Dear Robert:
So's your old man.
Dad.

Hal George: Now that, sir is the most becoming hat you've tried on so far.

Wearly Customer: I agree with you entirely—it's my own!

First Prof.—I say, Old Chappy, Santa Claus played a devilish mean trick on that girl.

Second Prof.—How's that?
First Prof.—Look what he put in her stocking.

—Wampus

Neeland—Why does that cat sit there and watch me all the time?

Ostrander—I guess you've got the plate he generally eats from.

You can always tell a Freshman by his bright and breezy air,
You can always tell a Sophomore by the way he combs his hair,
You can always tell a Junior by his dignity and such,
You can always tell a Senior—but it doesn't mean so much.

—Kodak

**EVANSTON MEET
CARRYING EFFECT**

**Student-Directed Projects in
Various Fields Being Conducted in Many Schools.**

Definite student projects are already under way in a good many colleges all across the country as a result of the Evanston Interdenominational Student Conference which met during the Christmas holiday. Reports of these projects were brought from every section of the United States to the first meeting of the Continuation Committee which recently was held in Columbus, Ohio.

Many of these student-directed undertakings related very definitely to the demand for Church unity which was so persistently expressed at Evanston. Thus at Northwestern University the Young People's Societies in the Evanston churches are moving more closely together in a common use of the project method.

Recently a representative committee outlined an experimental program on the question, "What is your aim in life?" Students from various denominations undertook a wide survey of student and adult leaders, from Al Jolson down the line, to discover, if possible, a guide to their own thinking. The sessions at which the answers were discussed were livelier and more to the point than any meetings within the memory of these church groups.

A similar project is under way at the University of Michigan. A committee representative of all the Young People's Societies of Ann Arbor has worked out a common program. The first question that is to be raised by these groups is "How wet is the University of Michigan?" Student commissions are making a survey of Ann Arbor in an effort to gather data on which to base a discussion for that night.

A project of another sort is that at Ohio University at Athens, Ohio, where in a coal mining community, students, with the backing of the churches have already set about the job of cooperating with the mining groups in night and week-end classes.

All the way from Massachusetts to Oregon reports have come of the wide spread and increasing interest in the proposals for projects of various sorts which were outlined at Evanston.

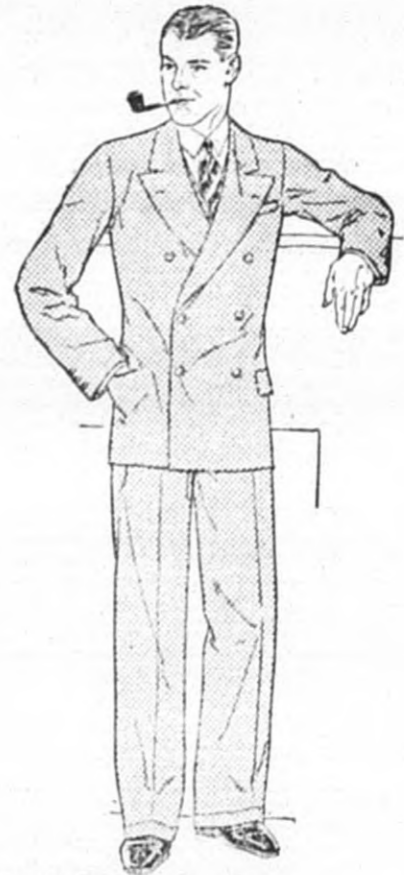
The Constitution Committee is helping to start five student commissions to head up project work in these various fields. Each of these commissions, although composed of students, will have the help of an expert adviser. The first commission is to undertake the investigation of the educational processes of the churches particularly with reference to the way in which the facts are being broadcast, of how the Church is already, in terms of definite cases, helping to build a new social order. The material for this survey will be gathered by students. The second commission is studying ways and means for Church student cooperation and relating itself to all union

projects already undertaken by the students themselves. There will be further commissions on students, and international relationships; church leadership in student communities, etc.

The Continuation Committee is seeking to correlate and conserve these various projects. Communications which relate directly or indirectly to this work can be sent to the Interdenominational Student Conference, 1509 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Student wanted to take charge of our Gratiot County banquet. Marjorie Hamilton, 1509 N. LaSalle, Chicago, Ill.—adv.

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NEW ASSOCIATION BEING FORMED

Presidents Meet to Create Association of Endowed Colleges of the State.

A meeting of the college presidents, looking toward the formation of a new college body in Michigan consisting of the colleges on private foundations was held in Jackson on Wednesday.

President H. M. Crooks, of Alma College is president of the organization, which is seeking the promotion of the new body which will cover oratory and debating as well as athletics. The promotion of the new body will sound the death knell of the present M. I. A. A. and it is expected that the new body will be formed and in operation when college opens next fall. With the present plan of proposed organization of col-

leges on private foundations, normal schools would be eliminated.

Eight colleges are proposed for the new organization: Adrian, Alma, Albion, Calvin, Hope, Kalamazoo and Olivet. It is expected that another session will be held shortly which the college presidents, athletic directors and heads of departments in oratory and debate will be asked to attend.

ORATORS COMPETE AT YPSILANTI

(Continued from page one)

mal, Professor Nykerk of Hope, and Professor Ewbank of Albion, the most capable of the state college public speaking heads, gave Tritten the highest rating.

Calvin Admitted

At the morning session of the directors of the Michigan Oratorical and Debating league Calvin College was admitted to the oratorical league. At the fall meeting of the directors Calvin was admitted to the debating league and finished the season with the highest record. Calvin will take the place of Adrian College in the oratorical league, Adrian not having participated in several years.

TEN YEARS AGO

Feb. 18—Alma basketballers lose to the Tri-State College team of Angola, Indiana.

Feb. 19—Y. W. C. A. Jubilee banquet held in the Philomathean room, commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the Y. W. C. A.

Feb. 20-27—Vocation week observed. Dr. Hickok, of Washington, D. C. conducts services.

Feb. 25—Basket ball team loses to Mt. Pleasant 41-13.

Feb. 26—Zeta Sigma stag banquet at Wright House. "Jimmie" Mitchell acts as toastmaster. Toasts given by "Matty" McIntyre, "Brud" Hyde, "Stub" Warner, "Allie" Papsworth.

Feb. 28—Morton J. Ault wins local prohibition oratorical contest with his oration "The Dirge of Buchus."

Feb. 29—Athletic Association minstrel show held in the college chapel.

March 3—Bernice Ireland, speaking on "Human Compliments" takes third place in the women's oratorical contest at Hillsdale.

"I profit by other people's mistakes," said the minister as he put the wedding fee in his pocket.

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College Song

Andante

Glow and Love to our College dear, Ride of her students so far and near,
Al-ma, our praise to thee we sing long may our voices in chorusing

Gladly we gather to give her a cheer And raise aloft her colors high Ma-
Loyal to thee we shall always stand though scattered afar and near,
Every land.

ALMA

roon and Cream. Al-ma! Alma! Rah! and once again

Alma! Alma! Rah! 'Tis our glad refrain. Ma-ry memories!

dear recall to mind the happy hours spent together, The grove the jungle

hunts the rhythm of the splashing oar upon the Pine, Soon we bid adieu

To College days, and dear old scenes we love so fondly, but long

will tarry in our hearts The glow of youth and ties that bind us evermore...

D.C.

These zinc etchings of the Alma College Song were made a few years ago for the Maroon and Cream from drawings by Andree Pratoucy, a French student in the college. We are printing these etchings because we feel that many of the students are still not as familiar as they should be with the college song. In an early issue we will print a zinc etching of the College Chant.

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**College Orators Are Ably Piloted
Through Most Successful Season**

The Oratorical contests at Ypsilanti last Friday marked the end of public speaking activity in Alma College for the year.

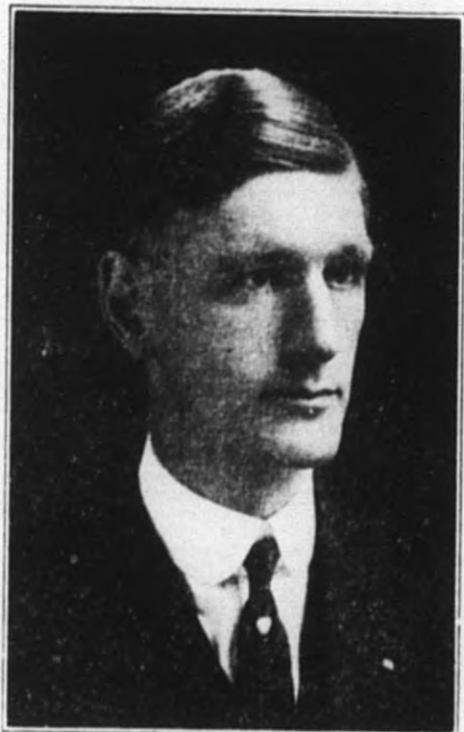
Forensic activities have been on a higher plane this year. The debaters carried on the most extensive program ever attempted and held the scalps of all the lower peninsula normal schools. Four neutral audiences have heard them debate.

Esther Oldt has brought an oratory medal again to our midst. Robert Tritten initiated the state judges to a new style of oratory which startled them from the usual cut-and-dried affairs.

Professor Roy Hamilton has been in charge of Alma's public speaking activities for a number of years. He

had considerable experience in college public speaking when he was an undergraduate. He is now an ordained minister and is constantly engaged in giving addresses of various natures. The orators who represented Alma at Ypsilanti last Friday were coached by Professor Hamilton.

Lee M. Sharrar has been debating coach for the last two years. Lee was a member of high school debating teams in Alma a number of years ago and debated for Alma College



PROF. ROY W. HAMILTON



LEE M. SHARRAR

when he was a student here. By his experience as a debater and the additional qualifications due to specialization in history and economics, Mr. Sharrar is peculiarly fitted to coach debating teams.

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AROUND THE CAMPUS

Tremendous interest was manifested among the students in the Charleston contests conducted in the Strand theater last Friday and Saturday. We have heard that the Charleston is a dance difficult of perfect rendition, and he or she who can execute a half dozen of the few score steps in that southern dance is immediately deified by our Wright Hall co-eds.

So when an honest-to-goodness contest was staged in our midst the student body all turned out to observe and profit. The amateurs proved to be an attraction having a box-office ranking with that of "Lightnin'", or "Abie's Irish Rose," or some of the vaudeville to which Alma theater-goers were treated a few weeks ago.

And when it came to the contests themselves our own college ranks produced the greatest number of prize-winners. Peggy Reynolds kicked off second money in the contest Friday evening. The stormy applause of the college boys in the bald-headed rows assisted her as well as all the other collegiate entries. The fellow who won first money among the men wasn't a college man but the Wright Hall verdict is unanimous that he was "cute." The next night our own Deac Closser wiggled into first money and Sammy Moss by means of some scandalous terpsichorean activity came out with the second prize.

The contest was a tremendous success and if Kennedy's fingers recover after the hours of "Five Foot Two" there might be another.

"We're strong for the Normal." Last year that clarion call was a mighty force on the campus. Every week-end a goodly number of Alma lads assembled and by some means managed to arrive at the institution to our north and charm the inmates of Ronan Hall. The girls up there all liked the Alma boys and the Normal lads are reported to have been profanely protestant (secular interpretation) about it. So everyone was interested.

This year opened laxly with regard to our social relations with our near-by Normal neighbors. But last Saturday the far-famed Frosh Flurry was held at C. M. N. S. And to the honor of our institution a dozen or so of the masculine element from here attended the party as guests of Normal ladies. We won't divulge their names because boys who go to Mt. Pleasant and with Mt. Pleasant girls are said to be much more popular in Ronan than in Wright Hall. Be it so. The cry: "We're strong for the Normal" cannot be stifled.

Bumming trips are no longer unusual among our Alma students. It

takes a yegging spree of unusual merit to draw forth much comment. Nevertheless Jack West, Homer Barlow, and Chuck Mann (hardy souls!) bummed clean to Crosswell and back last week-end. The daring element comes in when we consider the terrific winter weather and the scarcity of automobiles in the Thumb. The boys left Alma, Thursday morning and arrived in the town of Hart peas Friday night. They got back to Alma in one day. The distance between Alma and Crosswell is about 140 miles. We figure out the total distance to be 280 miles. Of this distance our Alma tramps walked thirty. This is a record—the worst on record.

Don MacLandress was in town last week end. He still wears those outrageous, monstrous, nefarious, heinous, and flagrant bow-ties he insulted us with last year. He reports that Al Moore, also at M. S. C. is still equally daring with his own throat apparel.

The STRAND THEATER

Tuesday and Wednesday
March 9 and 10

Marguerite De La Motte

—in—
"The People vs. Nancy Preston"

Thursday and Friday
March 11 and 12

RICHARD DIX

—in—
"Womanhandled"

Saturday, March 13

Dick Talmadge

—in—
"The Fighting Demon"

Sunday, Monday and Tuesday
March 14, 15 and 16

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—in—
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