

# The Weekly Almanian

THE STUDENT PUBLICATION OF ALMA COLLEGE

Vol. XIV.

Alma, Mich., Tuesday, January 18, 1921

No. 13

## Mable Field is Winner of Women's Oratorical Contest; Emma Ritter Takes Second

First Among Six Entries; Will Represent Alma at State Contest in Albion.

The Women's Oratorical Contest of the College, held last Wednesday night in the chapel was won by Miss Mable Field, second place being taken by Miss Emma Ritter. The subject of the winning oration was "Victory or Defeat." Miss Field's victory entitles her to represent Alma at the State Oratorical Contest to be held in Albion in March.

"Victory or Defeat" took up a discussion of the foundations of permanent peace, and dwelt on the factors which would bring an understanding between nations and would tend to prevent future wars. It distinctly showed on what we must found any world agreement: An international understanding and sympathy. The oration was very well constructed and thought out, and was delivered with an easy and pleasing manner. The speaker had full command of her subject, and from the intense interest which she conveyed showed herself to be deeply engrossed in it.

Miss Ritter's oration, "Americanization," dealt with the great problem which America faces in dealing with the immigrant, and in bringing him to be an American citizen in the true sense of the word. The fact that the orator has had personal experience with immigration work gave her an understanding of the problem and insight into it that made her oration above the average. Several light touches of humor added to the interest of her work. "Americanization" rivaled very closely the oration which won the other contest.

Four other women were entered in the contest: Pauline Strick, Agnes Youngs, Helen Platt, and Helen Scott.

Miss Youngs had as her subject, "American Childhood," and she dealt with it from a discerning but sympathetic viewpoint. Miss Platt spoke on the important subject of "Vocational Education" explaining the need of such education in these times. In "America and the Immigrant," Miss Strick took up the problem which this New World country has in dealing with the people of the Old World, and the complexities which confront us in the situation. Miss Scott's oration, "The Glories of the Commonplace," eulogized some of the humbler things, which we are wont to disregard, but which are nevertheless important.

The orations were, on a whole, well worked out, and well delivered. They covered a diversity of subjects, and presented much that may be deeply considered. In the showing which the women of the college have made this year they have rivaled all previous contests, both in excellence of work and of delivery.

### TO SPEAK

W. D. Henderson of the University of Michigan, and one of the most capable and impressive speakers of the state, will speak at the Presbyterian Church next Friday evening on "The Re-Discovery of America." Dr. Henderson is at the head of the Extension Department of the University, and has traveled extensively over the country on speaking tours. No one can afford to miss hearing him.

### DROP FIRST GAME

"Pond Lilies" Defeated by the Mt. Pleasant Reserves 16-10.

Promptly at 4:34 Ann Arbor time, 5:15 Alma time; Captain Howe's valiant scrubs, supported by almost a score of ardent rooters, boarded the Ann Arbor motor to do battle with the Mt. Pleasant Reserves at Mt. Pleasant, Thursday evening, January 13.

That the game was well played is attested by the first half score which was 2-2. Our valiant cagers had the original Reserve team completely outplayed, but at the end of 10 minutes the Reserves put in an entirely new and fresh team. This was repeated twice again so our warriors played four teams in reality.

Captain Howe took with him Waggoner, Van Page, Graham, Marks, Hudson and Handley. Howe and Hudson staged some clever floor work and showed remarkable accuracy in long distance shots. They both were weak in shooting fouls which lessened our score materially. Our guards though badly battered courageously stuck to their posts and ought as real Alma scrappers.

Our real "good time" came after the game. As is their custom Mt. Pleasant showed us a royal good time, and we take this means of expressing our thanks for their courtesy. None of the Alma boys were seen buying a ticket but we all danced, nevertheless. In fact, Jerry Marks danced so that the Dean threatened to put him off the floor. Girls take notice.

This road trip showed our "Pond-lilies" have a brilliant future to look forward to, and a few of the Reserve teams around Alma had better hold tight to their scalps.

## PROFESSOR WEST LECTURES ON SNOWFLAKE

Illustrates Lecture with Slides and Experiments.

On the evening of January 11, 1921, the fourth number of the Library Lecture Course had as its speaker Professor Francis E. West, head of the Chemistry department, who spoke on the interesting subject, "The Life of the Snowflake." The lecture was illustrated with slides.

As an introduction to the subject, Professor West explained that snowflakes are made up of the substance known to us as water, but called among chemists, H<sub>2</sub>O, a substance made up of the two gases Hydrogen and Oxygen. Several experiments were performed to show the quality of the two components. The first experiment was that of the division of water into the two gases, the second showed how oxygen in water will ignite certain substances, phosgene in this case; and the third an interesting one in the making of soap bubbles filled with hydrogen, which exploded violently when touched with a flame.

Following the experiments, a series of especially fine slides dealing with the subject were shown. Part of these were actual photographs of snowflakes. There are only three men in the world who are able to do this delicate photographic work; (Continued on page four)

### MEN'S ORATORICAL

Will Be Held in the Chapel Wednesday Evening.

The Men's Oratorical Contest of the college will be held in the college chapel Wednesday, January the nineteenth. A fairly large number of entries in this event have been made, and it is certain that an interesting program will be presented. As full reports of representatives from the two societies are not at hand at this writing, it is impossible to name the contestants, but it is sure that they will include in their number representatives from all of the classes of the college. The freshman representation is especially large, and since the abilities of these men is not definitely known, a factor of unexpectedness enters into the work. Hearty support of the different orators is deserved, and there should be a large attendance at the contest.

## COLLEGE RECEIVES LARGE DONATION

\$125,000 Gifts Subject to Raising of Full Quota.

Announcement was made in chapel on Tuesday morning of the proposed gift of the General Education Board, founded by Mr. John D. Rockefeller, to Alma College. The General Education Board pledged \$75,000 toward \$300,000 of endowment. The Board has also agreed to pay \$5,000 a year for three years toward faculty salaries. The pledge of \$75,000 is conditioned on the raising of a fund of \$300,000. There are no conditions to the gift of \$5,000 a year.

It was announced last year that the General Board of Education of the Presbyterian Church would give \$50,000 toward a \$300,000 fund. There are now, then, pledges to the extent of \$125,000 by these two great boards which are to be paid when the immediate friends of the College have secured funds to the extent of \$175,000. Of the \$175,000 to be secured in pledges, \$63,000 is promised. There remains then the sum of \$112,000 to be raised.

The pledge of the General Board of Education of the Presbyterian Church was made in such a way as to give the College until March 31, 1921, to secure the full amount of \$300,000. No time limit has yet been set by the General Education Board.

The time is short. There needs to be a large amount of work done to secure the desired results. Assisting President Crooks in the work is Mr. Allan Hill Brown, formerly of Winona Lake, Indiana, and it is understood that other full time workers will probably be secured. A number of Presbyterian ministers in their services for several days at a time. Among them are Dr. William H. Mason of Saginaw, Rev. Joseph H. Green of Mt. Pleasant, Rev. Willis L. Gelston of Alma, Rev. J. Earl Webber of Royal Oak, and Dr. Lewis S. Brooke of Milford.

DON'T MISS THE MAROON AND CREAM PLAY NEXT MONDAY, JANUARY 24. The Biggest and Best Play Ever Staged by Alma College Students.

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW. RESERVE YOUR SEATS NOW.

## Maroon and Cream Defeats Crimson Quintet in First M. I. A. A. Game; 23 to 8

### BASKET BALL

Here's the list of basket ball games that are left for the Maroon and Cream team. It is a strong schedule and will determine just where Alma will stand in the M. I. A. A. when the season ends.

January 22—Mt. Pleasant Normal at Alma.

January 28—Albion College at Alma.

January 29—Open.

February 5—Hillsdale at Hillsdale.

February 11—Olivet at Olivet.

February 12—Kalamazoo at Kalamazoo.

February 16—Mt. Pleasant at Mt. Pleasant.

February 18—Adrian at Adrian.

February 19—Albion at Albion.

February 25—Kalamazoo at Alma.

February 26—Ypsilanti Normals at Alma.

March 1—Bethany (W. Va.) at Alma.

March 4—Hillsdale at Hillsdale.

March 5—Ypsilanti at Ypsilanti.

March 11—Hope College at Holland.

March 12—Grand Rapids Y. at Grand Rapids.

Exams are like the poor—we have them always with us.

Old friends are like old cheese—the strongest.

## ALMA WILL MEET THE MT. PLEASANT QUINTET

Normal Vets Of Mt. Pleasant Will Invade Alma.

The veteran Mt. Pleasant Normal team, which was one of the strongest quintets of the state last year, and which has started the present season with a rush, will invade Alma Saturday night for a battle with Coach Steele's Alma collegians, and a real battle is in prospect.

The Normals, boasting such men as Brooks, LaCronier, Beddow, Tambling, and other real stars, have lost just one game this season, having been nosed out by 4 points by M. A. C. last week. Coach Simmons team is a fast one, and it believes that it will have little trouble in disposing of the Maroon and Cream team.

The Presbyterians, while forming a green team, have one that is scrappy right from the go, and it is not going to be an easy matter for the Isabella Teachers to shove the Maroon and Cream down to defeat. The team appeared to fine advantage against Olivet with both Arbaugh and Cathcart out of the fray, and with the additional week of practice should show some wonderful development. It is regarded as (Continued on page four)

At a recent religious census taken among 2,000 students at the University of Chicago by the Board of Christian Union, it was revealed that among the 2,000 there was only one atheist, only two agnostics, and that more men go to church than women.

## Olivet Unable to Solve Alma Five Man Defense; Steele's Men Take Early Lead.

With two regulars out of the game, the Alma college basket ball five was still strong enough Saturday night to pull a big surprise, the Presbyterians riding over Coach Watson's fighting Olivet cagers to the tune of 23 to 8, this being the worst defeat that the Crimson has met this year. It was a brilliant victory that the Maroon and Cream secured in starting out their M. I. A. A. schedule.

With Cathcart and Arbaugh both out of the game, hopes of winning from the Crimson were small. Waggoner was shoved into center and Scott into Arbaugh's guard position, where both eld forth in great style, aiding the rest of the team in keeping Watson's gang of basket shooters puzzled at every stage of the game. The night previous Olivet had held the Central Normal cagers 20 to 16, and it did not seem possible that the Maroon and Cream could win. The old time Alma fight was shown for the first time this year, and with such a show of pep and fight on the part of the locals, the scrappy Crimson team had little chance to win.

The five man defense of the Almates worked almost to perfection. Just twice could the Watson coached team pierce the defense, once in each half. The other four points were taken by McDonald on fouls before he was chased by Referee Hoolihan for roughing in the second half.

The Olivet defense puzzled Steele's men in the first half, and only two field baskets were counted, but in the second half the offense of the Maroon and Cream smashed through the Crimson wall four times.

The work of the Alma forwards, Beattie and Kirker, was the big feature of the fray, but in giving them credit, the work of Waggoner, Dahlgren and Scott must not be overlooked. Dahlgren's defensive work was especially commendable, as was the foul shooting of Beattie.

In the preliminary, after holding Flint Central 2 to 1, the local high school team was defeated 22 to 5, the defense going to pieces.

Lineup and summary:  
Olivet \_\_\_\_\_ Alma  
LaMonte \_\_\_\_\_ rf \_\_\_\_\_ Beattie  
Murray \_\_\_\_\_ lf \_\_\_\_\_ Kirker  
Cunningham \_\_\_\_\_ c \_\_\_\_\_ Waggoner  
McDonald \_\_\_\_\_ rg \_\_\_\_\_ Dahlgren  
Packer \_\_\_\_\_ lg \_\_\_\_\_ Scott  
Field baskets—Beattie 4, Kirker, Waggoner, LaMonte, Murray.

Fouls—Beattie 11 out of 13, McDonald 4 out of 6, LaMonte 2 out of 1, Cunningham 0 out of 1.

Substitutions—Dowe for Murray, Murray for Dowe, Dowe for McDonald, Suhi for Murray, Handley for Scott.

Score first half—Alma college 7, Olivet college 5.  
Referee—Hoolihan, Mt. Pleasant Normal.

### CLASSICAL DEFINITIONS

Freshman: One who knows that he knows and knows not that he knows it.

Sophomore: One who knows that he knows not.

Junior: One who knows and knows that he knows.

Senior: One who knows enough to know that he knows not.

### NOTICE

Seniors have your pictures taken this week. Baker will fix you up with a cap and gown.

LET'S BEAT MT. PLEASANT SATURDAY



**The Weekly Almanian**  
A Student Publication

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**FIGHT 'EM ALMA**

Another season of athletic contests has begun; basket ball has taken its station as the foremost sport in the minds of the student body. Every student is waiting eagerly to see what this season will bring forth in victories for the Alma Mater. Every student is looking forward with a hope that success may crown the efforts of the Maroon and Cream quintet.

The team is at the beginning of a stiff schedule. The games which the men will play, at home and elsewhere, will call forth every effort that the players can put forward if the team is to win. The other M. I. A. A. teams, for the most part made up of veterans, are eager for a chance to gain new laurels. Our men are green. None of the regulars of last year are here to carry us to victory. We must rely entirely on a fresh quintet. But our faith will not falter. We know that every man on the team will be filled with the fighting spirit of old Alma, the up and at 'em pep which has brought victory in years gone by, and which we feel will carry us to a share of success in this season's conflicts. We are proud of the team, and we are standing behind it.

And the team is looking to us. Our moral support is a vital necessity to them. Any faltering, any lack of faith in our players will be quickly sensed. If we falter, they will falter. What if our beginning has not been the most opportune? It counts for nothing. A whole schedule lies before us. If the student body of Alma stands fast behind the Alma basket ball team, if the old Alma spirit again shows itself on the sidelines, we need not fear for results. Let us forget any misgivings we have except as they make us more determined to win. With redoubled energy, every student a loyal supporter of the Alma five, we can and will gain success. Let's go! Fight 'em Alma.

**STUDENT FORUM**

In a recent issue of the Almanian there appeared an article under the heading "A college for Character or Amusement." Ordinarily such spasmodic expressions of would-be reformers are unworthy of notice but since the afore-mentioned article contained some unqualified misstatements of facts I feel it ought not be let pass without refutation. On the very surface of the article one recognizes the old pessimistic story of the man who believes that the world is rapidly becoming buried in a wave of sin and corruption and then puts all his efforts into raising his dismal howl in an attempt to drown out the sound of the jazz orchestra and gliding feet.

Now let us consider a few of the facts involved. The statement is made that "a vociferous minority of our student body wrested a so-called reform," etc. Allow me to recall a few facts to the mind of the writer who evidently was not on the campus at the time. Three years ago a petition signed by 75 per cent of the student body asked for the privilege of dancing on the campus. Only six students were firmly enough opposed to sign a counter petition. Two years ago during the S. A. T. C. dancing was permitted by the faculty because of the unusual situation on the campus. Last year a petition signed by approximately 80 per cent of the student body was presented to the Faculty. At this time no students were firmly enough averse to dancing to present a counter-petition. Then came the foundation of the Student Council and the question of dancing was passed up at the same time by the Board of Trustees.

Every one of the campus knew that as soon as the technical responsibility for the institution of campus dancing was shifted to a student organization there would be no question as to whether or not we should have dancing. Yet no one hesitated to vote for the Student Council. So we see that at no time have the advocates of campus dancing been in the minority to say nothing of the term vociferous. Furthermore, a canvass of our faculty will show that more than "a few," favored and do favor campus dancing. Then too, to speak of the Board of Trustees as possessing a "singular apathy" is illogical and unjust as well as disrespectful.

Now just a word with regard to the only real complaint of the writer of the afore-mentioned article, the fact that there have been numerous campus dances this fall. The Student Council has the power to grant permission to hold these various dances and it has done so because it felt that the majority of students desired them. There is no desire upon the part of the advocates of dancing to monopolize the social activities of the college. But so long as the majority wish this form of healthful enjoyment, can the Student Council logically refuse the permission? Now as to the down-trodden but always actively kicking minority: If they desire thimble parties, drop-the-handkerchief evenings and intellectual tete-a-tetes there is no law prohibiting their having them. Before Christmas the Senior class decided to put on an old-fashioned box-social, because it was thought that all, dancers as well as non-dancers would enjoy this type of all-college party. But not a single favorable comment was heard outside the Senior class and at the last minute it had to be changed to a dance to prevent its becoming a failure.

Now if our reforming friends can convince the Student Council that dancing is injurious to the college morale or morals and ought to be restricted, well and good. But we suggest that the simple facts be used in doing so and the question be given a fair discussion. Any red-blooded Alma student resents the inference that his college is going to the bad and Alma Spirit is low. Cheer up, our would-be reformers, life is not as black as you would paint it and Alma may be a college where real "amusement" is enjoyed and still be a college for "character."  
L. D. B., '21.

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Alma, Michigan

**TAKE NOTICE**

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The College Photographer

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Absolutely the most fascinating, thrilling, compelling, truly American Drama that Alma Students have ever staged!

**STRAND THEATER**

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Curtain Raises at 8:15 p. m.

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**Try to get in! Try to get in!**

Buy your tickets of any Junior or Senior  
Do it now if you want a seat!

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**INTERESTING TALK**

Hart Lectures To Psychology Class On "Advertising."

Friday afternoon the members of Dr. Randal's psychology class and several visitors listened to a very interesting discussion of some of the principles employed in modern retail selling and advertising. The speaker was Mr. H. C. Hart of the Merchant's Nat'l Service Company of Chicago, who is now conducting the sale at Robinson's Store. Mr. Hart told some of his experiences in the selling and advertising "game" and the class listened with great interest.

"Learn the policies of the merchant and co-operate with him." In this local sale he pointed out that Mr. Robinson suggested that the Barnum Circus always drew a big crowd in Alma; then Mr. Hart asked Robinson if he would allow him to use "Circus Advertising" in the present sale. The merchant consented, Hart advertised and soon the people of Alma were rushing toward the Robinson store.

Flash headlines and prices standing out marked this sale. He declared that "well displayed merchandise is half sold" and a psychological point that is quite amusing is the fact that he talks to the crowds in the store like an auctioneer and tries to get them confused because they will buy faster when confused than when in their right minds.

Mr. Hart has worked for Marshall Field & Co. and told the class some very interesting experiences he had with that greatest merchandising house in the world. When the hour was over we all felt like going out and "painting the town red." It was certainly a treat to listen to this lecture and we hope we may hear about "Advertising" in the near future.

**RESULTS ANNOUNCED**

In Army Intelligence Tests Given to Freshmen Recently.

The Army Intelligence tests recently taken by the Freshmen of the college produced some rather exceptional results. Out of a possible grading of 185 the highest record received was 148. Forty-eight men and thirty women took the tests. The seven highest rankings among the men were as follows: Hileman, 148; Ingersoll, 141; Dancer, 140; Vliet, 136; and VonderHyde and VanPage, 136; and VonDerHyde and VanPage, each 134. Among the women, Miss Strick took first place with a rating of 147. The others in order were: Miss Evans, 143; Miss Scott, 141; Miss Young, 140; Miss Shankel, 136; Miss Field, 134; Miss Wicksall, 131; and Miss Grierson, Miss Bradley, and Miss Ritter 127.

It has been found by the English department that the results of these tests, in a large number of instances, tally with the class ability of the various students as shown by their records. Therefore, this method of examination gives the department a method of determining the respective ability of students and of indicating their weaknesses, whether in observation, general knowledge, etc.

A large number of amusing answers were given to some of the questions in the tests. The oboe was characterized as an article used in medicine, John Hay, so said one brilliant student, was a great banker; while another described a subpoena as an article used in war. Reubens suffered a great fall when the information was given that he gained fame as a cartoonist. Many other similarly ridiculous answers were given, but they are only single instances. On the whole, the tests were very good.

**STUDENT COUNCIL**

The regular meeting of the Student Council was held January 9, 1920. After roll call the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

A motion was made and seconded that a committee of three, Prof. Hamilton to be one member, interview the Almanian Board and Staff in regard to the policy of the paper. Carried.

The President appointed Mr. Wilson, Prof. Hamilton and Miss Friedrichs.

Adjourned.

Gladys Edgar, Sec.

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